

IBT GREEN INITIATIVE

Route to Net Zero

**Tree Planting &
Aftercare**



WHY PLANT A TREE?

Trees are a vital resource for this planet. They clean the air we breathe, filter the water we drink and provide habitat to over 80% of the world's terrestrial biodiversity. Forests absorb harmful carbon from the atmosphere, and are key ingredients in 25% of all medicines. Have you ever taken aspirin? it comes from the bark of a tree! An average 2 tonne tree actually removes around 7 tonnes of carbon dioxide through the process of photosynthesis, meaning you need to plant a whole lot less than you think.

For the staff here at DiscoverIBT, we know we have a responsibility to do what we can in an industry that is becoming increasingly more difficult to be green.

Outlined below are our 5 reasons as to why it is important to act now:



Giving back to nature - a single tree can host hundreds of species of insect, fungi, moss mammals and plants. Without trees, forest creatures would have nowhere to call home.



Developing relationships with our partners - with our partners and vendors knowing we are becoming a greener company, they can buy and work with us knowing we will offset our carbon the best we can.



Carbon footprint | Working together to achieve carbon neutral - by being greener ourselves, we allow our customers to buy into the tech industry knowing their purchase was completely offset.



Teaching younger generations about sustainability - Working closely with schools around the world, we help promote the ideology of a greener tomorrow.



Be part of the Big Climate Fightback where the aim is to get 50 million trees in UK soil



HOW DO I PLANT A TREE?

Want to get involved with planting your own tree?
Below is a step by step for different methods of
planting your own sapling.

Prepare your site

There are a few ways to plant your tree(s) which, if done correctly, could greatly increase the chances of your trees lasting and growing as they should.



Choose your site and mark where each tree will be placed. We recommend leaving a space of around 2 metres between each tree. Remember - wavy lines will look more natural than straight regimented rows of trees.



If the planting area is overgrown, cut the grass and weed. This will not only make the planting easier, but will reduce the competition for water for your new saplings.



Choose your planting method - Pit, Slit or T-Notch (following 3 pages).

PLANTING METHODS

For planting your trees, you will need:



A Spade



Your Sapling



A Cane
(for support)



A Spiral



Your Chosen
Location

Pit Planting

Pit planting is recommended as the best option as it allows the tree better contact with the soil. It is also suitable for all ground types.

Steps:

- Dig a hole, make sure it is nice and deep so there is enough space for the roots. When you dig up the earth, make sure you do not put your soil too far away as you will need that again to cover in your tree.
- Once you have dug a hole, and it is deep enough, place your tree in the hole, ensuring the roots are covered.
- You then cover the tree in with your excess soil and firm it up to ensure all air gaps are out. This will avoid frost getting in later. You will know when it is firm enough as when you give the tree a little tug it should stay put.
- Once this is complete, it's time to add your cane. You will push this in next to the tree and this will act as a support once you add the spiral.
- The spiral will tie the cane to the tree, offering support. To do this, you simply wind the spiral up to the top. Be careful you do not damage the tree while doing this.

Slit Planting

Steps:

- Press your spade into the ground and push it forward in order to create a slit. When you do this, make sure that it is deep enough for the tree's roots.
- Once you have completed this, keep the slit open with your spade and place the tree inside with the root positioned approximately 2cm below ground level.
- Then remove the spade and push the soil back around the tree.
- You can, similar to pit planting, add a spiral to protect your tree.

PLANTING METHODS

T-notch Planting

This is another quick method that is suitable for grass covered ground but not bare soil.

This method is a great alternative for areas susceptible to drought, however not recommended for clay soil areas.

Steps:

- Firstly push your spade fully into the ground.
- At a right angle to the first cut, repeat step 1 in order to create a t-shape.
- Once this is complete, take your spade to the original cut and lever it upwards, which will allow you to part the turf.
- Then place the tree carefully in between the sections of the turf.
- You then lever the spade back out which will allow the turf to fall back into place. While doing this please ensure all roots are in the hole.
- The final step is to then adjust the tree and ensure it is at ground level and then firm down the soil around the tree.

AFTERCARE

To assure you keep your tree alive for years to come, make sure it is watered when necessary as well as weeded as to allow oxygen to get to your tree.

Please also be aware that if you are planting other trees nearby that you leave enough space between each tree so that they can grow to their full potential.

SEEDBOMS & BUG HOTELS

We are giving these customers an option to choose their own Kabloom® seedboms instead of having a tree planted.

These are small starch based shells filled with organic compost and a whole host of pollinating wildflower seeds. They allow you transform any green space into a wildflower meadow, with a range of different seeds to choose from.

The Seedboms are perfect for growing in small green spaces, or even gifting to staff to grow at home, “just simply Shake it, Soak it, Throw it and Grow it.”

For more information visit: kabloom.co.uk/seedboms



Bug Hotels are a great way of offering a home to creatures as well as learning about nature and its wonderful creatures. It also allows children to respect and handle sensitive wildlife and observe nature within their setting. The hotel will attract a whole host of insects, from solitary bees, to ladybirds and other invertebrates.

The bug hotel itself is constructed with nearly all natural materials (excluding the metal fastenings and mesh to hold it all together), meaning it integrates nicely into any garden or natural area. The wood is treated with post savers to prolong the life of the timber, and protect it from rot and damage caused by grass cutting.

Each section can be easily maintained by filling it with different natural waste materials, attracting different creatures to each section, and can be a great way to get rid of gardening waste.



*Sizes and builds may differ



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Images are for illustration purposes only. Exact products or items listed may differ in appearance and size. The methods shown are a guide only, and do not guarantee tree growth success. Adult supervision is advised when planting.