



Christmas Tree Care Instructions

The CCTGA's simple steps to enjoying a Real Christmas tree

Before you start, make sure your tree-stand can hold the base of the tree plus 4 litres of water

1. When buying your tree, do a freshness test. Grasp a branch between your thumb and forefinger and pull it towards you. If the tree is fresh, no more than 5-10 needles should come off in your hand, more needles may come off in colder dryer conditions, this is normal.
2. Store the tree in a cool place, out of the wind and rain, until it is ready to be brought indoors.
3. Ensure your tree stand is large enough to hold four litres of water as well as the trunk of the tree.
4. When bringing the tree indoors cut $\frac{1}{2}$ - $\frac{3}{4}$ of an inch cut off the tree stump before it is placed in water. The cut must be no more than 4 hours old; otherwise sap will seal the cut. This prevents the water from rising up thus drying out the tree.
5. Place a tree-moving bag under your tree, ready to be drawn up around the tree to make disposal easy in January.
6. The first fill should be with very warm water enabling the sap to flow readily. As the tree thaws water will be drawn upwards replenishing the moisture to the extremities. No additives are required.
7. Have a family member top up the water twice daily so the base of the tree never gets dry. Your tree will drink several litres of water everyday for the first week or two.
8. After the holidays envelop the entire tree with the moving bag. Bring everything outside, including the stand, which can be easily removed once the tree is on its side outdoors.
9. Your tree is 100% recyclable. Contact your municipality for details.

The Canadian Christmas Tree Growers Association

Wishes Everybody a Merry Christmas

www.canadianchristmastrees.ca

