

Create Strong, Healthy Garden Trees ■

1 ■ Page Printable Checklist

Golden Rule: Roots decide the future of the tree. Grow roots first, not leaves.

1. Tree Selection

- ■ Choose climate■suitable tree
- ■ Check mature height & spread
- ■ Prefer local / heat■tolerant varieties
- ■ Avoid very large nursery plants

2. Location Check

- ■ Correct sunlight requirement
- ■ Away from walls & foundations
- ■ No waterlogging during monsoon
- ■ Enough space for full canopy

3. Digging the Hole

- ■ Width: 2–3× root ball
- ■ Depth: Same as nursery soil level
- ■ Loosen surrounding soil

4. Soil Preparation

- ■ Mix native soil + 10–20% compost
- ■ Do not replace soil completely
- ■ Keep soil airy, not compacted

5. Planting

- ■ Root flare visible above soil
- ■ Tree upright and centered
- ■ Backfill gently
- ■ Create watering basin

6. Watering

- ■ Water slowly and deeply
- ■ Let soil dry slightly between watering
- ■ Avoid daily light watering

7. Mulching

- ■ 5–8 cm mulch thickness
- ■ Keep mulch away from trunk
- ■ Use dry leaves, bark, or straw

8. Staking

- ■ Stake only if needed
- ■ Tie loosely (figure■8)
- ■ Remove after 2–3 months

9. Fertilizer Rule

- ■ No chemical fertilizer in first year
- ■ Use mild compost only

10. Monitoring

- ■ Check soil moisture
- ■ Watch for leaning or yellow leaves
- ■ Avoid digging near roots

“A tree does not grow strong by being rushed—it grows strong by being allowed to root deeply.”