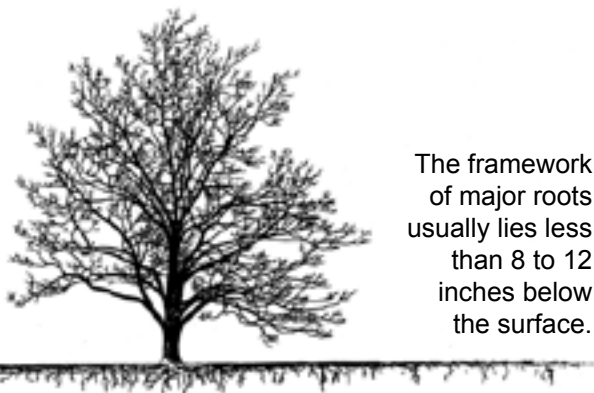




Roots Extend Beyond Branches



The framework of major roots usually lies less than 8 to 12 inches below the surface.

The root zone of a tree extends far beyond its branches.

Roots often grow outward to a diameter one to two times the height of the tree.

A tree planted in your garden, and a tree that springs up in the wild, are in two different worlds. In natural surroundings, a tree grows because of the natural sorting and sifting that is part of ecology. A tree must be well-matched to its micro-climate or it cannot sprout and grow. Trees planted along our streets and in our gardens are not usually so well-matched to their surroundings. A little planning will help you pick the right tree from the start.

Look UP ... Check to see if anything blocks the sunlight during large portions of the day. Make sure there is enough room for the branches of the tree to grow. Check for overhead utility wires, the nearness of walls and buildings and the space neighboring plants will take when they grow.

Look DOWN ... Make sure there is enough room for the roots of the tree to grow. Look for the foundations of buildings, pavement, underground utilities.

Look ALL AROUND! Note factors such as temperature, amount of water and type of soil that exist at your site. Will automobile, truck or foot traffic trample the roots?

California Garden Clubs, Inc.



Grow With Us

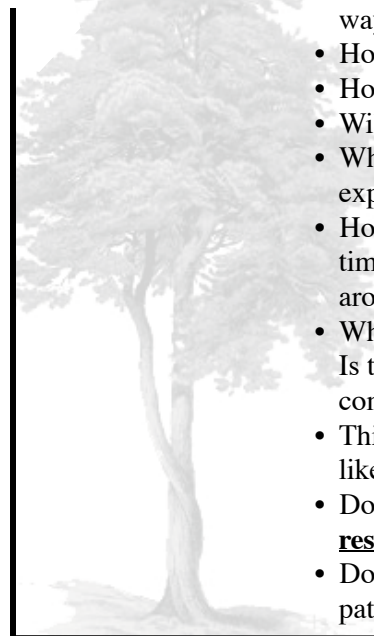
Choose the Right Tree

The top five reasons why trees die....

- compaction,
- under-watering,
- over-watering,
- vandalism, and ...
- choosing the wrong tree in the first place.

If you are thinking about planting new trees around your home, think carefully before you choose which tree(s) to plant. Different trees have different characteristics. By matching the right tree to the right site, you can enhance the value of your property, save energy costs, prevent costly maintenance trimming or potential damage to your home AND end up with a tree that has a good chance to survive. Before you set out to choose a tree, look around and ask some important questions about your site:

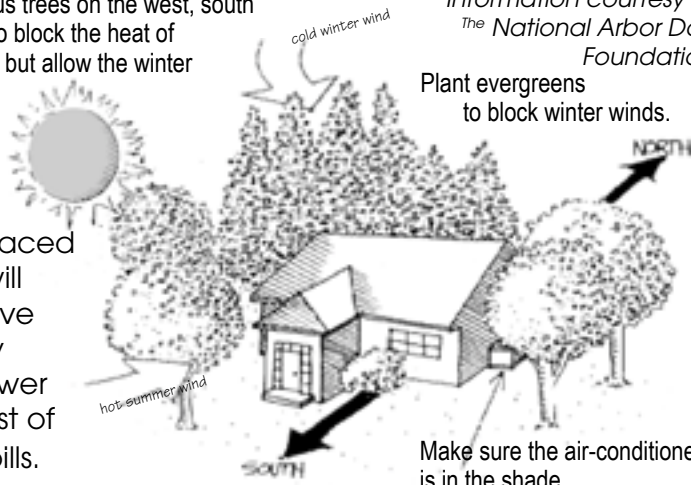
- What is the **reason the tree** is being planted. Will it be for shade, fruit, or seasonal color?
- How much **space** do you have? Would a small, medium or large-sized tree fit best? Be sure to consider overhead & underground wires & utilities.
- How much **clearance** for sidewalks, patios and sightways for driveways do you need?
- How much **sunlight** will the tree have?
- How much **water** is required?
- Will quick **drainage** be necessary?
- What level of **hardiness** is needed? Will the tree be exposed to extreme hot or cold conditions?
- How much **work** are you willing to do? How much time is needed to water, fertilize, prune & clean up around the tree?
- What are your **soil conditions**: Is it acid or alkaline? Is the soil deep, fertile and well-drained, or shallow, compact, and infertile?
- Think about **size**. What will the mature tree will look like? How much space do you have?
- Does your **city** have tree **requirements** or **restrictions**?
- Do you need **shade** for your house, hot pavement, patios or recreational areas? If so, how much?



Grow With a Garden Club

Plant deciduous trees on the west, south and east sides to block the heat of the summer sun but allow the winter sun to warm the house.

Well-placed trees will conserve energy and lower the cost of utility bills.



Information courtesy of
The National Arbor Day
Foundation

Plant evergreens
to block winter winds.

Make sure the air-conditioner
is in the shade.

The right tree in the right place can increase property value and decrease energy costs.

The Right Tree for Your Site

A well-placed, well-cared for tree increases in value each year. There are thousands of trees to choose from. To make the best choice, you need to consider many factors. For example, the density of a tree affects how much light will filter through. Evergreens will generally cast denser shade. Deciduous (leaf dropping) trees can help keep your home cool in the summer yet allow the rays of the sun to warm the house in the winter.

The larger types of trees need plenty of room to grow above and below the ground. They should be planted at least 35 feet away from the house for proper root development and to minimize tree damage to the house or building. Trees with invasive roots are seldom a good choice. Large vase-shaped trees can create an arbor over a driveway or city street while narrow trees planted alongside one another can provide a good screen for privacy. Short, spreading trees are a good choice for a location near overhead utility lines. Fast growing trees aren't necessarily better. Slow growers usually produce sturdier branches and are long-lived.

There is a perfect tree for every spot. Make a list of the trees you like and match them with the characteristics of your site. Consider all the factors, then choose carefully!



Characteristics of Sample Trees

Shape
Deciduous
Spreading
Low water
High litter
Fast-growing
Frost damage
CA Native
Bears fruit
Spring color
Summer color
Fall color

SMALL TREES: Under 25 feet												
Chitalpa, <i>X Chitalpa tashkentensis</i>	O	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Crape Myrtle, <i>Lagerstroemia indica</i>	V	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Persimmon, <i>Diospyros kaki</i>	S	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Purple-leaf Plum, <i>Prunus cerasifera</i>	V	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Smoke Tree, <i>Cotinus coggygia</i>	V	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Strawberry Tree, <i>Arbutus unedo</i>	R	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Western Redbud, <i>Cercis occidentalis</i>	V	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
MEDIUM TREES: 25 - 40 feet												
CA Bay Laurel, <i>Umbellularia cal.</i>	R	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Camphor, <i>Cinnamomum camphora</i>	R	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Chinese Pistache, <i>Pistache chinensis</i>	R	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Flame Tree, <i>Koelreuteria bipinnata</i>	S	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Ginkgo, <i>Ginkgo bilboa</i>	P	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Melaleuca, <i>Melaleuca quinquenervia</i>	N	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Pink Trumpet, <i>Tabebuia impetiginosa</i>	O	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Tipu, <i>Tipuana tipu</i>	S	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
TALL TREES: Over 40 feet												
CA Sycamore, <i>Platanus racemosa</i>	R	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Coast Live Oak, <i>Quercus agrifolia</i>	S	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Eldarica Pine, <i>Pinus eldarica</i>	P	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Fern Pine, <i>Podocarpus racemosa</i>	R	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Pacific Dogwood, <i>Cornus nuttalli</i>	O	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Sweet Gum, <i>Liquidamber styraciflua</i>	P	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Valley Oak* <i>Quercus lobata</i>	S	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
White Alder* <i>Alnus rhombifolia</i>	P	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•

Choose the Shape Best Suited for Its Place

