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# If You Decide to Plant Yourself

There's more to proper planning and planting than we have space for here, but these two basics should help any do-it-yourselfers a lot.

### PICK THE SPOT WELL

It's so easy to overlook how big a plant is going to become when you bring it home from the nursery.

**The danger:** Planting too close to a building, driveway, or other plants. The plant may quickly outgrow the space and then must either be pruned heavily to stay in place or removed.

**Solution:** Know how wide the mature plant will be and allow at least half that distance from any plant, building or visual obstruction.

### MAKE A "BIG" HOLE

Once the plants are home, don't dig a hole "just" big enough and stick them in.

**The danger:** The plants will not be able to put roots into hard soil next to their rootball and they'll be very slow in establishing.

**Solution:** Make the hole at least twice the size as the ball, loosen the soil well, and add some organic material. Be sure to plant at the same level as the plant was growing in the nursery.

