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PLANTING NATIVE PLANTS

A POCKET GUIDE

TASMAN ENVIRONMENTAL TRUST

BEFORE PLANTING

DO:

- Water plants in root trainers a couple of times a week.
- Saturate roots thoroughly before planting.

DON'T:

- Store plants in excessive shelter and shade.

WHEN PLANTING

DO:

- Plant into a weed-free spot.
- Cultivate the soil deeper and wider than the plant's roots.
- Keep removed soil close and break up lumps/clods.
- Gently firm the soil around the roots, covering them completely with no air gaps.
- Always use a stake.
- Check there are no plant parts outside the guard.

DON'T:

- Disturb plant roots unless they're pot-bound.
- Cover stems, leaves or branches with soil.

AFTER PLANTING

DO:

- Monitor your plantings regularly. In the first 2 years, water in dry spells, if possible, and plant release (weed) often.
- Plant releasing: spread weeds to outside the guard and flatten for spraying. If using chemicals, know how they should be applied.
- Leave guards on until plants are higher than tallest weeds.

DON'T:

- Get sprays on the plants.



Please remember to:

1. *Wear gloves*
2. *Be careful around spades and stakes*
3. *Follow your project coordinator's instructions*
4. *Treat chemicals with care*
5. *Have fun!*

GENERAL POINTERS

Different ecologies, conditions and plants have different requirements. Check with your project coordinator if you're not sure.

WHEN TO PLANT

May–September

DEPTH OF THE HOLE

A little deeper than the roots. Keep soil friable.

WIDTH OF THE HOLE

Plants in root trainers: a spade width (200 mm).

Other grades: ask your project coordinator.

PLANTING SPACING

General natives: 1.5 m

Estuarine plantings generally closer: 1 m–1.5 m

Grasses: 1 m or less

BACK-FILL SHAPE

Generally, concave to create a shallow water "dish".