

Carpet offers no shortage of choices

Weaving in its most basic form dates back to ancient times and made use of grasses, split reeds, palm leaves and other vegetable fibers in a basic basket pattern. Great progress was made when it was discovered that vegetable fibers and animal hairs could be spun into long filaments.

The word "carpet" comes from the old French word "carpite" which came from the Latin "carpere" meaning to pluck or card wool. Carpet weaving can be traced to Egypt as far back as 2500 B.C. Much has transpired since and the technology of manufacturing carpet is still evolving. In the last decade alone, science has led to breakthroughs in fiber quality, manufacturing capabilities, colour, texture, and design.

Your choice of carpet will be dictated by many influences. The most important consideration will be design (style, texture, pattern) and colour, and the second consideration is usually based on quality and performance. Depending on your lifestyle needs, the room to be carpeted, the amount and kind of traffic the area will receive, different types of carpet will better meet your requirements and performance expectations. Quality and performance will be influenced by the following: fiber (including type, ply, twist), construction (including density, height, weight, body construction), and under-cushion, to name a few.

The most popular types of fiber used in carpet manufacturing today include nylon, polyester, olefin, or wool. Some carpets are manufactured with a combination of fibers. Each type of fiber offers specific features and benefits to be considered depending on your needs.

Nylon is the most versatile fiber and has the highest overall performance rating. A man-made fiber, used in all types of carpet from cut pile to loops to friezes, nylon exhibits extra high wear life, and extra high abrasion resistance, high texture retention, cleanability and fade resistance, and is mildew proof and non-allergenic. Polyester, also a man-made fiber, used in cut pile carpet, rates a high wear life abrasion resistance, stain resistance, cleanability, and is fade resistant. Olefins are made from a long chain of synthetic polymers and are one of the most economical fibers to be used in carpet construction. Most popular in the manufacturing of loop and berber carpet, key features are that it is static free and has extra high stain resistance and abrasion resistance although its texture retention is not as good as nylon. Wool, used for centuries in carpet manufacturing, pre-dates the use of synthetic fibers. Wool's outstanding characteristic is its resiliency. Wool is more flame retardant than some other synthetic fibers, and offers high soil resistance. The price of wool and the low rating for stain resistance and mildew proof often override the esthetic appeal.

Vast amounts of information are available about carpet yarn, construction, and styles and the features and benefits of different options. A place to start for easy-reading information about carpet, visit www.yourhomestyle.ca. Carpet is still the first choice for floor covering for the home and it is reaching a whole new era of popularity as a design medium with unlimited fashion equity. There is a carpet style to fit every lifestyle and every need.

—News Canada

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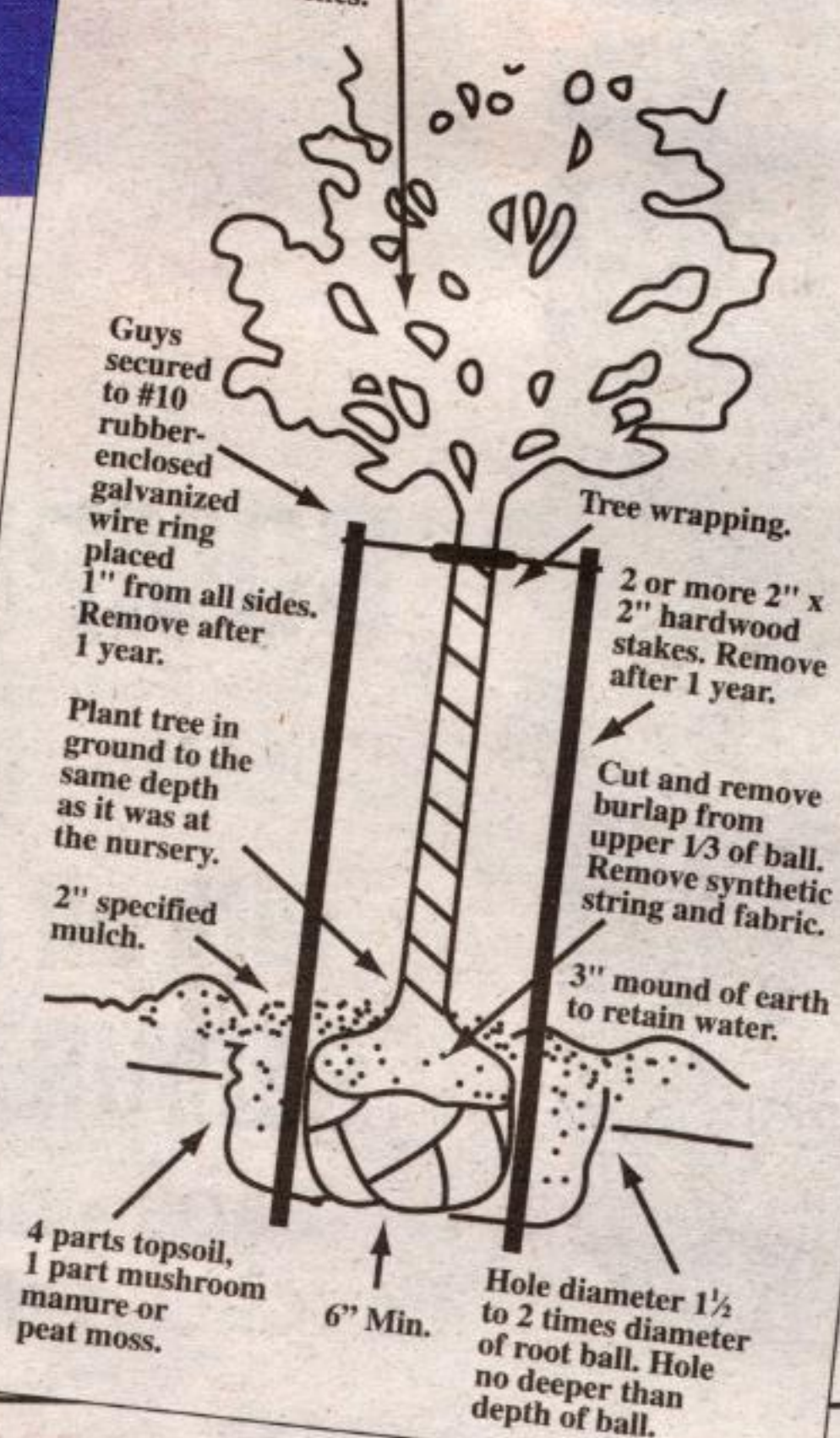
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Tree Planting Instructions

Without trimming the central leader, thin interior branches and foliage plus remove crossing branches.



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