

Garden Talk

Christmas Trees

“Where People who Love to Garden, Love to Shop!”™ **Fresher than Ever**

A tree that remains beautiful through the season is a tree that was bought FRESH AND KEPT FRESH. Here are a few simple tests for freshness.

Tip 1:

Place a needle between your thumb and forefinger and bend it. A needle from a fresh tree should bend rather than break, have a strong fragrance and good color.

Tip 2:

A fresh tree should have good weight to it, meaning the tree has plenty of moisture left in the trunk and limbs.

Tip 3:

If you're not ready to decorate, keep the tree outdoors in a cool spot, protected from the drying effects of the sun and wind. Make a fresh, diagonal cut across the trunk and immediately place it in a large container of lukewarm water. If the water level is allowed to drop below the cut, a seal will form and a fresh cut will be necessary again.

Tip 4:

Before placing the tree in the stand indoors, make a fresh cut, straight through the trunk.

Tip 5:

Trees are thirsty. They may drink a pint of water or more a day so check the water level daily and supply fresh lukewarm water as needed. The freshness of the tree is prolonged by mixing a "tree preservative" with the water in your stand.



Tip 6:

The use of a tree bag will keep most of needles out of your carpet when moving the tree outdoors, making cleanup easier at the end of the season.

Tip 7:

Avoid use of combustible decorations. Do not use lights with worn or frayed cords and never use lighted candles. This will ensure a safe and happy holiday.

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