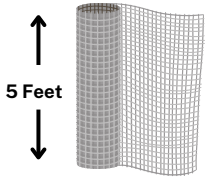


GUIDANCE FOR INSTALLING TREE CAGES

Tree cages work best with evergreen trees or shrubs. For deciduous trees (trees that lose their leaves in fall) consider other options like tree tubing.

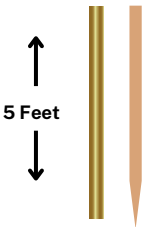
Materials Needed

*Stronger materials will cost more, but require less maintenance. If you cannot commit to checking the cage on a regular basis, then stronger materials are recommended.



Cage Material

- Cage material can be metal or plastic and can be many different shapes and sizes.
- Cages can protect individual plants or can encompass groups of plants.
- We recommend cage height to be around 5 feet.
- Heavy gauge with larger mesh size would be appropriate in areas with significant deer pressure. Smaller mesh size and lighter-weight material would suffice in areas with heavy rabbit pressure.
- A 50 foot roll of homestead fencing can make about 12-13 cages with a diameter of 15 inches.



Metal or Wood Stakes

- Cages need strong support to remain upright.
- The posts that support the cage can be wood, metal or PVC.
- We recommend metal rods or wooden stakes that are around 3-5 feet tall.

Wire Cutters



Mallet or Hammer

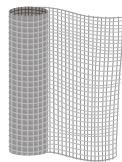


Zipties or String



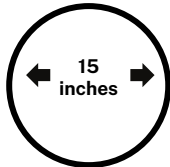
*Can be used to hold cage shape or secure to posts.

45 inches

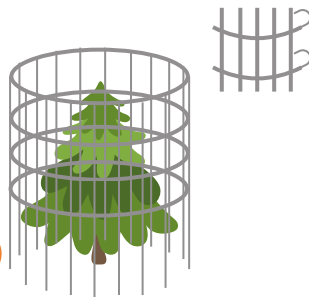


- Roll out cage material and measure desired length.
- The diameter of the shelter is roughly one-third of the circumference of the cage.
- For example, a cage with a diameter of about 15 inches will need a piece of material about 45 inches in length.
- Tree cages only have to be 12" – 24" across.

1



2



- When you cut the fence be sure to leave wire for attaching the cage together after you roll the fence piece into a cylinder.
- Place the cage around the tree.

Threaded



- Each cage requires 2-4 stakes/rods placed at equal distances from one another.
- To keep the cage steady, thread the rods through the cage to keep it steady.
- Hammer the stakes into the ground.

3



After Planting Maintenance

As the tree grows, you will need to prune the side-branches or increase the size of the cage. Pull or cut unwanted vegetation, check for breaches in the fencing material, and make sure that stakes are set straight and firm. Check your tree cages at least once annually, and more often if you're using weaker fencing material.

