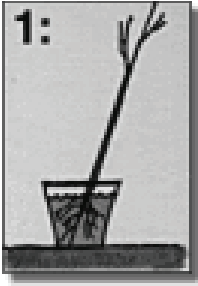
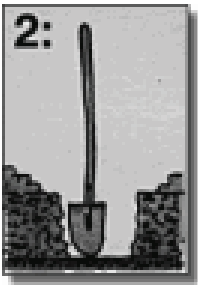


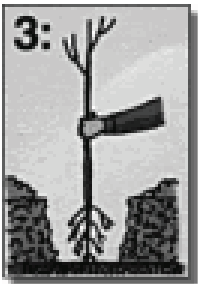
# Step-by-Step Instructions for Planting a Bare-Root Tree



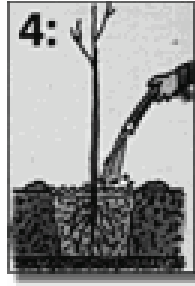
**1:** Soaking the bare root in water three to six hours before planting is often recommended, but check with your supplier to see if this is advised for your tree. Unpack tree. Do not plant with packing materials attached to roots, and do not allow roots to dry out.



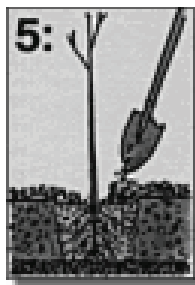
**2:** Dig a hole, wider than seems necessary, so the roots can spread without crowding. Remove any grass within a 3-foot circular area. To aid root growth, turn soil in an area up to 3 feet in diameter. To ensure good water movement into and out of the hole after the tree is planted, score the sides of the hole to eliminate compaction of soil that resulted by digging the hole.



**3:** Plant the tree at the same depth it stood in the nursery, without crowding the roots. Partially fill the hole, firming the soil around the lower roots. Do not add soil amendments, such as fertilizer, peat moss, compost, etc.

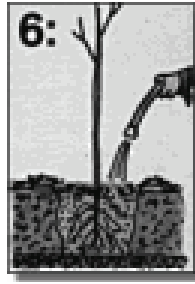


**4:** Shovel in the remaining soil. It should be firmly, but not tightly, packed with your heel. Construct a water-holding basin around the tree. Give the tree plenty of water.



**5:** After the water has soaked in, place a 2-inch deep protective mulch area 3 feet in diameter around the base of the tree (but not touching the trunk). Touching the bark with mulch, NOT soil, is OK for dogwoods.

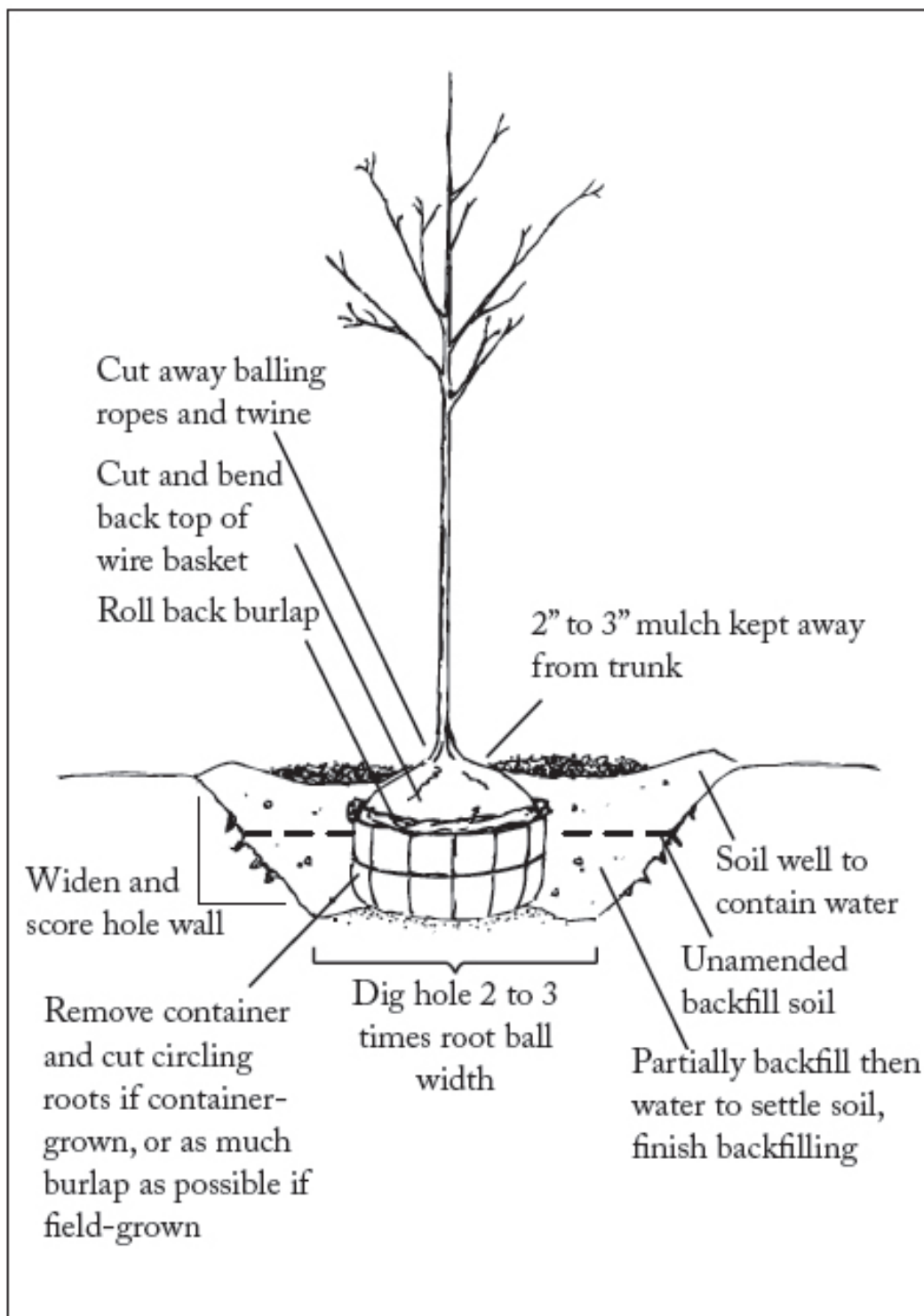
It's important that mulch not be packed to ensure that water does not pool around the trunk.



**6:** Water the tree generously every week or 10 days during the first year.

Source: Arbor Day Foundation, [www.arborday.org/TREES/NineNum8.cfm](http://www.arborday.org/TREES/NineNum8.cfm)

# How to Plant a Containerized or Balled-and-Burlapped Tree



(source: UT Extension publication #1621)