

Build a Wooden Tree Pit Guard Step By Step Guide Designed by BrooklynShade



Tool List

Drill

Saw (Coping, Cross Cut)

Tape Measure

Stake Driver (Hammer)

Square (Straight Edge)

Safety Equipment

Shovel / Pick

Pencil

Paper

Eraser

Paint Brush

Step 1: Measure the Pit

Tools: Ruler, Pencil, Paper, Eraser.

Get as close to the perimeter of the pit as you can.

Examine the quality of ground you need to dig.

Do no harm to yourself or the tree.

Take careful measurements.

Step 2: Design Your Guard

Tools: Pencil, Paper, Eraser, Imagination (or our design.)

Ask yourself how your design protects the tree.

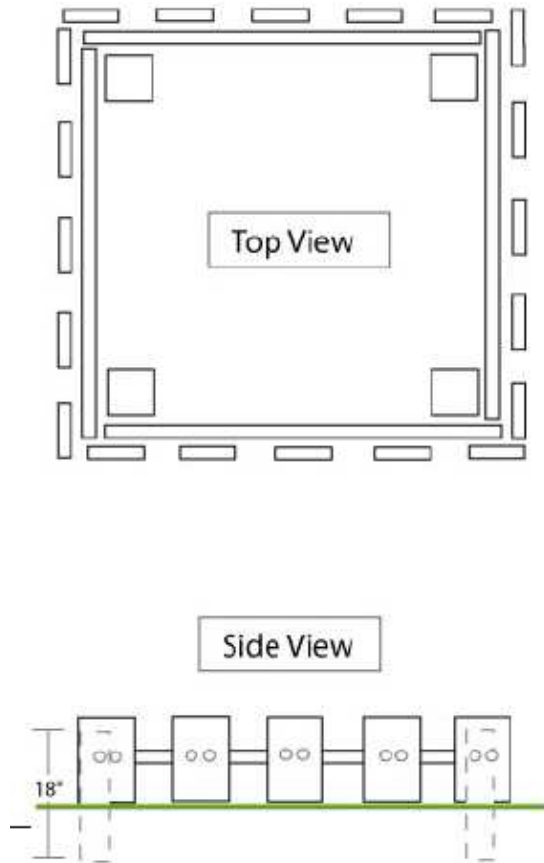
Consider the height of the guard. Tree guards should be taller than 12 inches.

Think about the sturdiness and longevity of your guard.

Label your design with measurements and materials.

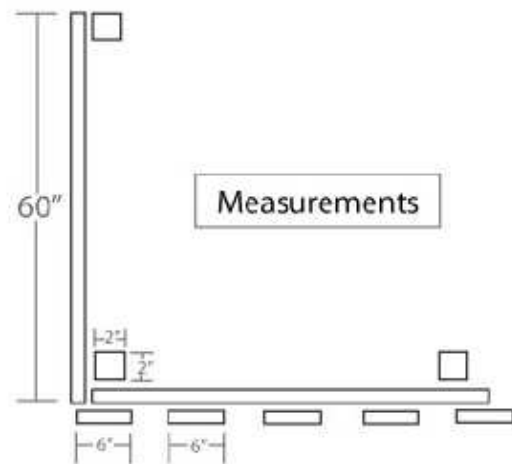
Safety of pedestrians around your guard is the #1 priority.

5' x 5' Tree Bed Guard



Material List

	TxWxL	Cut From
1. Rails (4)	1" x 3" x 60"	(4) 1" x 3" x 60"
2. Posts (4)	2" x 2" x 18"	(1) 2" x 2" x 72"
3. Pickets (24)	1" x 6" x 14"	(3) 1" x 6" x 144"



Step 3: The Material List

Tools: Pencil, Paper, Eraser

Our Prototype:

Posts = (4) 2" x 2" x 18" (treated lumber)

Rails = (4) 1" x 3" x 60" (5 foot tree pit)

Pickets = (24) 1" x 6" x 14"

Screws = 64 = 48 (2 for each picket) + 16 (to fasten the rails to the posts)

Fill Dirt

Paint or Stain (to protect the wood from weather)

Mulch or Compost

These measurements are for a 5' x 5' guard. Adjustments must be made for larger tree beds.

Step 4: Prepare Your Wood

Tools: Pencil, Square, Ruler, Saw

With your ruler and pencil mark all of your lines.

With your pencil and square mark all of your cuts.

Cut your posts.

Cut your pickets.

You may want to use your first picket as a template for the rest.

Don't cut your rails.

Paint all of your untreated wood.

Step 5: Drive Your Stakes

Tools: Stake Driver, Shovel or Pick

The stones in your tree pit can be removed to make way for your tree guard.

Dig holes around the perimeter of your pit.

Bury and secure your stakes in the ground.

Be careful not to injure the tree roots when you place the stakes.

Step 6: Finish your Tree Guard

Tools: Drill, Screws, Tape Measure

In our design, we leave a gap between pickets of the same width as the picket.

You may want to drill a pilot hole for your screws so you don't split the wood.

Cut and fasten the rails to your stakes. (Determine if you need more stakes)

Fasten your pickets to your rails.

About BrooklynShade:

BrooklynShade is committed to increasing Brooklyn's tree canopy and improving the health and longevity of existing city trees through community outreach, education, and service. It is the belief of the organization that a functioning tree canopy will improve health, beauty, and energy conservation for our communities. Although there are programs to train citizen volunteers as tree pruners, the critical care of trees including watering, nutrition, correct construction of tree pits, and the removal of harmful substances must be maintained by the residents in direct proximity of the trees.

BrooklynShade offers workshops to teach community residents how to build tree guards. For more information see www.brooklynshade.org or contact info@brooklynshade.org