



Groves Guide to...

Caring for you Christmas Tree

We sell a few different types of Christmas tree; the traditional **Norway spruce** (*Picea abies*) and the **Nordman** (*Abies nordmanniana*) type (AKA Blue Christmas Trees) are our most popular but sometimes we have a few **Frazier Fir** (*Abies fraseri*) and **Scots Pine** (*Pinus sylvestris*).

We also sell rooted trees, pot-grown trees and containerised trees. Rooted and Containerised trees have been mechanically removed from the ground usually causing damage to the roots, these trees will keep their needles better than cut trees but cannot be guaranteed to grow again. Pot-grown trees, are more expensive than containerised or rooted trees and can be thought of like buying any other tree or shrub, they should grow on year after year and should only drop relatively few needles.

Did you Know?

Pot-Grown Christmas trees are grown on nurseries with their pots buried in the ground. This ensures that they get their classic Christmas tree Shape.

The Blue Christmas tree are the type that keep their needles better indoors (all Christmas trees loose some needles), however they are much more slow growing than the Norway Spruce which is why they are always more expensive.

Christmas trees come from cool countries so the best way to stop a Christmas tree dropping its needles is to keep it in cool conditions. Unfortunately *people* prefer warm conditions and central heating and Christmas trees do not go well together! Try to find as cool a spot as possible to keep your tree & leave putting your tree up for as long as possible, buy your tree early by all means to avoid disappointment but keep your tree outdoors (preferably stood in water) until you want it inside.

Of course when the time to bring your tree into the warm finally arrives, the best way to keep it from dropping its needles is to give it water. When the tree was cut the wound that was created heals over. This stops infection but also stops the tree from taking up water, so cut a small part (approximately 1") off of the bottom of the trunk and keep the tree in water at all times (much like a cut flower). Just to be extra safe you can spray with "Vitax Spray 'N' Save" to hold the needles. It should last right through to the twelfth night.

Once you have finished with the tree take it down to your local recycling centre (In Bridport that's in South Street) who will recycle it for you or if you are lucky enough to have your own chipper/shredder use that to make your own mulch.

If all that fails we also have a great selection of artificial trees in our Christmas Shop!!!

Merry Christmas from all at Groves

Celebrating 140 years of gardening excellence
C.W. Groves & Son Ltd, West Bay Road, Bridport, Dorset, DT6 4BA 01308 422654

Taken from Groves Guides to...
At www.grovesnurseries.co.uk

