



## ROOT BARRIER FOR TREES

## DESIGN & INSTALLATION GUIDELINES (INCLUDING TYPICAL)

NORMALLY PLACED BETWEEN THE TREE AND WHATEVER YOU WISH TO PROTECT. TRY **NOT** TO SURROUND THE TREE. OUR PREFERRED METHOD IS PLACING THE ROOT BARRIER ALONG BESIDE THE PATH, BUILDING, PIPE ETC SO THAT THE TREE ROOTS CAN NOT GAIN ACCESS TO THE STRUCTURE. **TO STABILISE MOISTURE IN REACTIVE CLAYS UNDER THE STRUCTURE A DEEPER BARRIER IS REQUIRED.**

### DEPTH

DETERMINED BY AERATION OF THE SOIL. IN "NORMAL" UNDISTURBED SOIL VERY LITTLE GROWTH OCCURS DEEPER THAN 1 METRE.

### SEAL

SODIUM BENTONITE OR OTHER ROOT GROWTH INHIBITOR IS USED TO SEAL THE BOTTOM OF THE TRENCH AND BIND THE BOTTOM OF THE ROOT BARRIER TO THE UNDISTURBED SOIL. IN SUMMARY, TAKE THE BARRIER DOWN TO SOIL THAT NOTHING CAN GROW IN AND BIND THE ROOT BARRIER TO IT.

### LENGTH

SUFFICIENT TO STOP THE ROOTS GOING AROUND THE EDGE OF THE BARRIER, NORMALLY 1 OR 2 METRES OUTSIDE THE DRIP LINE OF THE TREE.  
**INSTALL ROOT BARRIER IN ONE PIECE.**

### TREE CARE

WORKING IN FROM THE DRIP LINE, (THE EDGE OF THE LEAVES) THE CLOSER YOU GET TO THE TRUNK THE HIGHER THE RISK OF DAMAGING OR DESTABILISING THE TREE. 50% OF THE DISTANCE FROM THE DRIP LINE TO THE TRUNK (20% OF THE TREE'S TOTAL ROOT PLATFORM) IS REGARDED AS THE CLOSEST YOU CAN CUT WITHOUT MAJOR RISK TO PLANTS HEALTH. IF IT IS NECESSARY TO CUT CLOSER THAN HALFWAY TOWARDS THE TRUNK, IT WOULD BE ADVISABLE TO ENGAGE THE SERVICES OF AN ARBORIST TO ASSESS THE TREE PRIOR TO THE WORK BEING CARRIED OUT, AND TO HELP NURSE THE TREE THROUGH THE PERIOD OF INSTALLATION

### BARRIER PLACEMENT

1. DIG A 100mm WIDE TRENCH TO THE REQUIRED DEPTH, INSERT ROOT BARRIER. ENSURE 50mm OF ROOT BARRIER IS LEFT ABOVE FINISHED GROUND HEIGHT (THIS IS TO ALLOW FOR SETTLEMENT AND MAY BE TRIMMED OFF LATER).
2. TRIM EXPOSED TREE ROOTS TO LEAVE A CLEAN CUT, TREAT WITH FUNGICIDE IF REQUIRED.
3. BACK FILL THE BASE OF THE TRENCH PLACING A LAYER OF BENTONITE, THEN BACK FILL USING SPOIL FROM THE TRENCH.
4. ROOT BARRIER SHOULD BE TRIMMED TO JUST BELOW LAWN MOWER HEIGHT BUT ABOVE GROUND (TOP OF ROOT BARRIER MUST BE EXPOSED ON COMPLETION).

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