

Symptoms

Immediate (noticeable within hours-days):

- Leaf Scorch
- Wilting leaves
- Leaf discoloration
- Leaf rolling or curling

Long Term: (symptoms appear months-years later)

- Stunted growth
- Branch dieback
- Sparse canopy

Common Causes of Transplant Shock

- **Root disturbance/damage**
 - Uprooting a plant can damage the fragile hair-like roots that absorb water and nutrients.
- **Environmental Changes**
 - Different light, temperature, and soil conditions can be stressful for plants.
- **Water Stress**
 - it is crucial a plant receives the proper amount of water to recover from transplant shock in its first year establishing.



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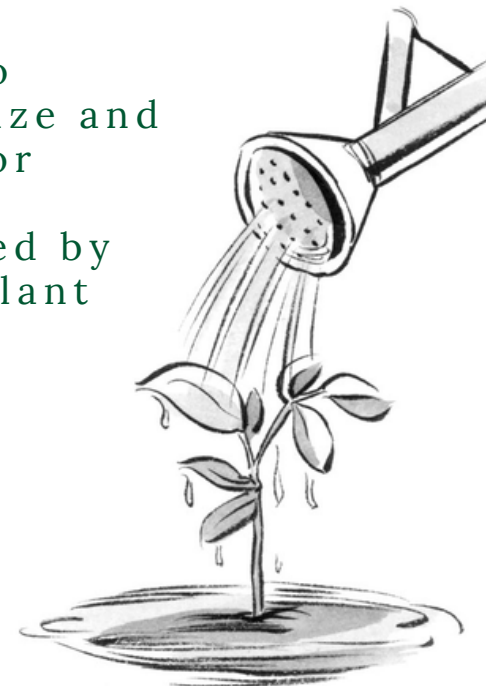
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TRANSPLANT SHOCK GUIDE

How to
minimize and
care for
plants
affected by
transplant
shock.



What is transplant shock?

Transplant shock is the stress that plants undergo when their root systems are disturbed during planting.



Transplant shock is almost completely unavoidable, however it is not usually fatal. If you start to notice a decline in your plant's health shortly after planting, do not panic! We can help identify these symptoms to better understand what is going on and get underway to a speedy recovery.



Minimize Transplant Shock

Choosing the right plant for your landscape is important. For example, a plant intended for full shade will not survive happily in full sun. Being “in the wrong place” can be an immediate stressor for plants. Talking with our friendly garden center staff and doing some research will help guide your decision making and protect your investment.



Proper installation will minimize transplant shock effects as well. We recommend preparing the plant by trimming off any circling roots, combining compost with native soil, then installing the plant so that the soil from the root ball/pot is level with the native soil. If installed too deep, the roots will suffocate. If the plant is installed too high in its hole, the roots will be exposed to fluctuating temperatures, making it more susceptible to transplant shock.

Once the plant is in its new home, it will need a little help regulating its water intake. We encourage watering **deeply but infrequently!** Every 7-10 days, thoroughly soak the root zone of the plant, saturating the soil about 2/3rds down into the soil. Check the soil with your finger for moisture every 3-5 days.

Continue this schedule into the fall before the ground freezes.

What to do?

- **Skip Fertilizing**
 - Fertilizer contains a lot of salts, usually synthetic, that can burn fragile roots.
- **Prune Sparingly**
 - Prune off dead or severely wilted leaves to help the plant save energy and give it time to recover.
- **Water Correctly**
 - Keep the plant evenly moist when maintaining the watering schedule. A few inches of mulch around the base of the plant can help regulate moisture and water evaporation. Avoid heaping mulch at the trunk or main stem of the plant to prevent wood rot.