



## Planting & growing Magnolias in Ottawa

Once you plant Magnolia trees properly, they will last for years.

### Size:

Magnolias vary in mature size from 10 feet to about 15 feet in as many years. They will grow to about the same size as lilacs.



### Blooming:

Magnolias in Ottawa bloom from mid-April to end of May depending on the cultivar. Some will rebloom in the fall. Trees may skip blooming the first spring after planting if stressed or while adjusting, but they will bloom every spring after.



### Location:

Most sites are fine, except for deep shade, where flowers won't form well.

### Planting:

At planting time just dig a hole twice the width and depth of the root ball. Amend the soil generously with peat moss, potting soil or compost, as much as 50%. A little sulphur could be added at this point, but it is not essential. Plant the tree at the same soil level as in the pot. Do not disturb the roots. If the tree is "b&b" (balled and burlap) place it in the hole at proper level. Do not remove the burlap, but do cut away all strings and burlap from the top half of the root ball. Tuck them under if possible. Water well and back-fill the soil.

### Mulching:

Mulch the soil with an organic type like shredded bark or leaves or pine needles. Keep the tree mulched all year to a depth of a few inches. Replenish the mulch, as it decomposes.

### Watering:

Water regularly in the first year –as often as every second day– but minimum twice a week for about an hour. Then stand back and watch them grow and bloom.

### Pruning:

Magnolias very rarely need pruning. It should only be done in early summer after bloom and only if there are damaged limbs or to shape the tree.