



Tree Reading Bench

Installation Instructions

NOTES: Please check for any damage caused by the shipping company and take appropriate steps to file a claim, if needed.

Materials needed

Cordless drill/driver, T25 bit, level, tape measure, 24" level, spade shovel, transfer (flat) shovel, garden rake, and hand tamp.

*Please call **Digsafe** and check for any underground utilities before digging anywhere.

Instructions

1. Remove items from pallet or packaging.
You should find six (6) 2x12" backrests with rounded tops and twelve (12) 5/4x6" bench seats.
2. Pick out the location for the bench keeping in mind the space between the tree and bench has to be less than 3" or more than 9" for safety. Bench should not touch tree.
3. Flatten out area around tree typically by adding fill and lightly compacting the fill with the hand tamp. Be careful not to damage tree roots. Use the level to ensure that the pad is as level as possible.
4. Place the 6 backrests around the tree in a hexagon pattern. Backrests are labeled 1-6.
5. Locate the two bench seat boards with one end labeled "1" and the other end labeled "2."
6. Secure the two bench seats to the backrests matching up the numbered ends of the bench seats to the numbered nailing surface of the backrests. The shorter bench seat goes on the inside, and the longer bench seat goes on the outside.
7. During assembly, to prevent unnecessary stress while screwing the ends of the seats to the cleats below, you should get help holding up each successive upright.
8. Repeat step 6 for the next section of bench seats between backrests 2 and 3 and so on until the tree reading bench is fully assembled.
9. Level the reading bench by adding fill under the feet if needed.
10. Backfill with topsoil/loam around bench feet up to desired height dictated by the age of people using the reading bench, then landscape with desired material. If this will be in a high use area, or if you think it will receive a significant amount of use, you may wish to maintain a gravel or peastone surface in front of the seats.



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NOTE: Be mindful not to cover tree roots with soil, as it is not always healthy for the tree.

11. All wood is treated with kid-friendly preservative, but as is the case with all wood facing the elements, it needs to be cared for, so check it periodically for rough spots, splinters, etc, sand them out, and treat freshly sanded areas with kid-friendly wood preservative (we have it available if you can't find it) once or twice a year to keep the wood from deteriorating. Use a handheld garden sprayer.

