



Harlequin

# Guidance

For outdoor planting.

Suitable for growing in partial shade to full sun and must be kept outside all year. Withstands severe frost. Must NOT dry out. Require plenty of water.

## Planting

Plant the willow tree directly in your garden (does not require special soil). The new willow tree must be watered daily for the first 3-4 weeks and then as necessary in dry weather or summer conditions. Fertilization is not necessary.

If you have purchased your willow tree in spring, only small sprouts are visible and the roots are very small. If you plant the willow tree before beginning of May, you must make sure that the stem remains in its original shape when you remove the pot. Place a temporary band around the stem at the ground before you remove the pot. After planting in the garden you can remove the band.

Please keep minimum 1 meter distance to walls or eaves to make sure that the tree gets enough daylight.

## Growth and care

The buds that grow on the stem must be rubbed off. The sprouts at the top will grow to become branches and create the crown.

The top branches should be trimmed at least twice each summer. For a

dense crown prune the new branches down to 8-10 cm length. For a looser crown effect the branches should be cut to 15-20 cm length. Do not cut into the willow rods that form the top of the main stem.

If the willow tree is exposed to heavy wind the crown must be trimmed more often until the stem has grafted together.

In early August you trim the willow tree for the last time before winter. Trim again in early spring before buds burst to encourage new growth.

## Important

If your willow tree has bands of dried willow, you will find plastic ties underneath these bands. Do not remove the ties until the individual rods have fully grafted together.

## Planting in pots

It is not recommended to plant the willow tree in a pot, as it requires plenty of water. However, if planted in a pot, the tree should be watered often. Start to fertilize when the tree is 2-3 months old.

There is a risk that the pot can dry out due to heavy and long time frost. Remember to keep the pot moist during winter.

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