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# tree spirals

# Spiral Tree Guards



Spiral Tree Guards are used extensively across the Northern Hemisphere for protecting young trees such as Standards, Seedlings Transplants and Single Stem Hedge Plant Varieties against browsing animals such as rabbit, hare, sheep and roe deer. They offer a very low unit cost but also are very quick and simple to install and often do not need additional tree stakes or fastenings to support them. This makes them the most cost efficient way of protecting young trees from Chemical or Rabbit's compared to other techniques such as Tree Shelters or Fencing. An additional major advantage of using Spiral Guards is their ability to grow with trees as they mature without the risk of strangulation or having to remove them from trees.

The key advantages of Spiral Guards include:-

- Very simple and quick installation
- No fixing stakes or fastenings required on most trees
- Lowest unit cost system and low maintenance
- Doesn't need revisiting to remove from mature trees in most situations
- Can promote thickening for hedging applications
- Does offer some benefits to aid growth in young trees
- Main tree protection since 1970's

## Rainbow Pvc Spiral Tree Guards

Rainbow developed the Original Spiral Guards and have kept improving the concept ever since. The well formed overlap in a Rainbow Spiral is important to prevent animals being attracted to gaps in the tree protector and more importantly for protection against chemicals. It is also most important to install Spiral Tree Guards the correct way up to remove the risk of tree strangulation. This can easily be seen on Rainbow Tree Spirals as the ventilation holes form a pattern of an arrow pointing upwards with the overlaps pointing upwards also.



All our Spiral Tree Guards are manufactured in 100% recycled PVC which offers many advantages over alternative plastics. PVC is a long lasting outdoor plastic so offers at least 4 growing seasons of protection even at high UV exposure levels. This material also will not become weaker at higher temperatures which causes some spirals to collapse around young trees in summer. PVC ultimately breaks down into minute inert particles through photo degradation which will not harm the earth around the tree plantation. Recent research has concluded that PVC is one of the better materials for the Environment at all 5 levels of its LCA Scale. This is particularly true now modern PVC's have D.I.N. Phthalate based stabilisers which do break down and do not bio accumulate.



# Canes With Spirals

Canes should be used in exposed sites for 38 and 50mm diameter spirals and for all small trees below 60cm. Best results are achieved by 60cm canes for 45cm long spirals and 90cm canes for 60, 75 and 90cm long spirals.

The cane should be placed inside the spiral with one third of its length pushed into the ground.

In less exposed sites the spirals do not need cane support but make sure the young tree is already exposed through the top of the spiral. When not using cane support the young tree must have a strong enough stem to support the extra growth without flopping over.

Tree stakes or bamboo canes with ratchet ties are recommended for 65cm spirals fixed through the ventilation holes to the outside of the Spiral Guard.



## Spiral Selection Criteria

### LENGTH

60cm Rabbit  
75cm Hare  
120cm Sheep/ Roe Deer on larger trees  
Plus possible snow depth in winter

### DIAMETER

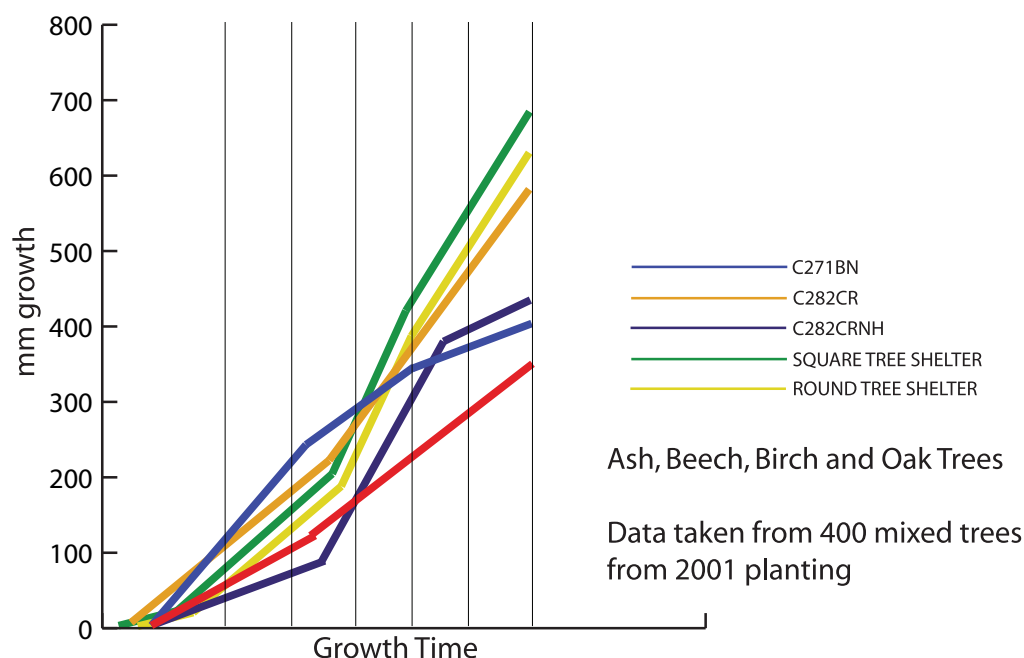
38MM For Whips and Hedgerow Planting  
50MM For Standard and Single Stem Trees and for Improved Growth rates  
65MM For Low Cost Tree Shelter Applications such as Broad Leaves and some Conifers.

### COLOUR

An aesthetic appearance	Grey, White, Brown
Enhance Growth	Clear or Green Tint
High UV exposure	White or Grey
Recover Young Trees with damaged lead shoot	Clear or Green Tint

### WITH OR WITHOUT VENTILATION HOLES

Our experience shows that young trees develop better and more reliably with Ventilation Holes. This reduces the effects of mildew and leaf burn, both of which stunt young tree growth. However if the planting area is going to be regularly sprayed with any chemical weed killer the no holes option should be used. We therefore prefer to recommend the use of a suppressant Weed Mat to reduce the use of Chemicals and possibility of disease.



# Hedging Applications

Spiral tree guards have been used as the preferred method for hedge planting for many years now and we have developed a great deal of experience in this area.

They offer the easiest, quickest and cheapest way of installing hedgerows and produce effective hedges with plenty of side and low growth. Initially the young hedge does not produce good side growth but as the young hedge grows above the spiral guard and thickens out blocking light to the lower parts the hedge is forced downward which helps to thicken it and promote low growth.

This becomes more evident when the Spiral Guard breaks down to allow more low growth.

We recommend that the new hedge is not cut for 8 years to enable it to thicken and produce an effective screen.

CODE	SPIRAL DIAMETER MILLIMETRES	SPIRAL LENGTH CENTIMETRES	CARTON QUANTITY	CARTON WEIGHT KILOGRAMS
<b>38mm DIAMETER SPIRALS</b>				
C267	38	30(12")	250	17
C268	38	15(6")	250	9
C270	38	45(18")	250	12
C271	38	60(24")	250	17
C272	38	75(30")	250	20
C273	38	100(40")	250	25
C276	38	20(8")	250	12
C288	38	120(48")	250	35
C289	38	90(36")	250	24
C290	38	150(60")	250	40
<b>50mm DIAMETER SPIRALS</b>				
C281	50	45(18")	250	15
C282	50	60(24")	250	19
C283	50	75(30")	250	24
C284	50	100(40")	200	25
C286	50	120(48")	200	30
<b>68mm DIAMETER SPIRALS</b>				
C210	68	45 (18")	125	14.5
C211	68	60 (24")	125	19
C212	68	75 (30")	125	24
C213	68	90 (36")	125	28.5

Distributed by:



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