

# supporting your climbers

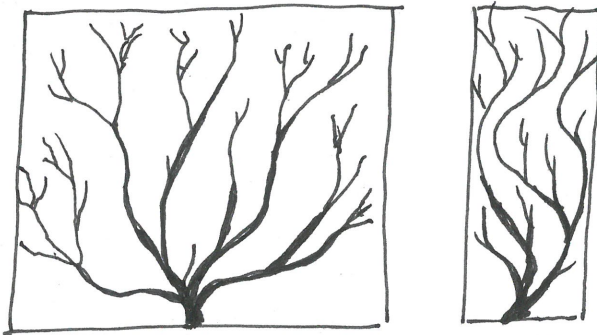
Some climbers and wall-shrubs are self clinging and others need supports to hold them against your wall or fence in the right position. You do need to stop them growing out into the garden as it's in their nature to creep around!

## self clingers

These include Ivies (*Hedera*), Climbing Hydrangea, and Virginia Creepers (*Parthenocissus*). Although they are self clinging a single horizontal wire 45cm (18") above the ground can be used to hold them against the wall until they start to hold on for themselves and also to train them to grow where you want them to.

## training your climbers to perform

Ideally we would like our climbers and wall shrubs to cover the wall space evenly. Their inclination is to grow upwards and we need to train them to spread out and cover all their allocated space. This is especially important for roses to encourage them to flower low down and not just up at the top.



You require some sort of framework to tie the stems to and overleaf we show you the choice of horizontal wires, wooden trellis panels or plastic clematis netting.

When tying the branches to your chosen frame we recommend that you use soft garden twine (jute) that will rot/snap before it garottes the fattening branch. Wire ties are discouraged unless you are prepared to check and loosen them each autumn.

**purple  
piglet  
project**



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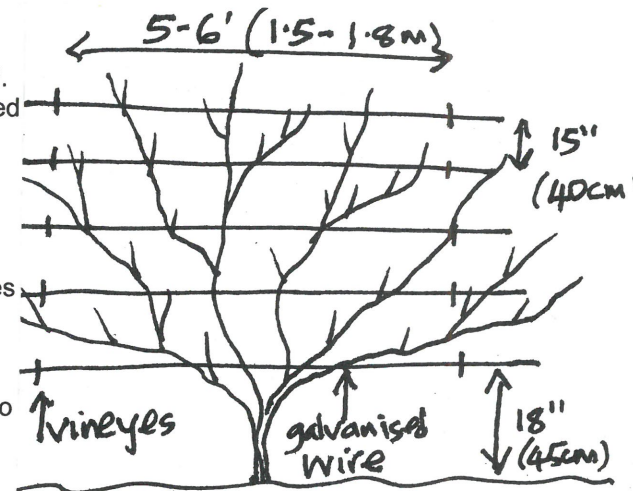
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# our supporting cast

## horizontal Wires

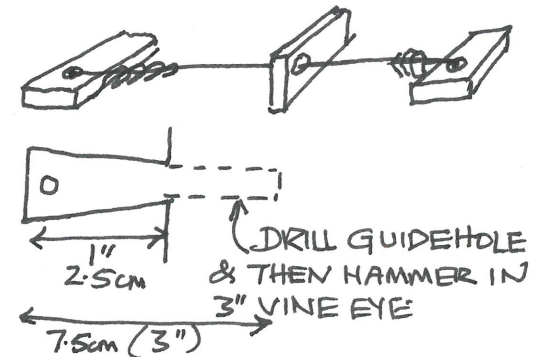
This is the most flexible method. We recommend using galvanised vine eyes and galvanised wires (1.5-2mm) run parallel to the ground starting at 45cm (18") and then every 37cm (15").

Drill guide holes for the vine eyes with a masonry drill bit. At each end fix the vine eyes parallel to the ground and then in the middle fix them vertically to allow the wire to pass through.



## wooden trellis panels

These can look very attractive against a wall or as free standing frameworks in your garden. Fixing onto a wall is simplest done by screwing vertical battens of wood to the wall using rawlpugs and then screwing the panels to the battens. This gives space for your ties to go between the trellis and the wall. Choose rigid panels as they are easier to fix than expanding trellis.



## plastic trellis netting

This is ideal for most clematis as it allows the plants to hold onto the framework with their twisting shoots. It comes in widths of 45cm (18") or 90cm (3ft) – choose for the best fit to your space. Vigorous clematis like Montana varieties are best trained onto horizontal wires.

You can use wooden battens or vine eyes to hold the netting in place. Fix it with wire staples to battens and thin wire to vine eyes.

