

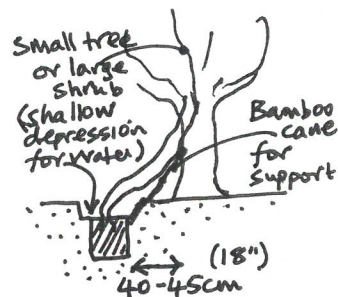
## Planting and Training your Climber

As you might imagine, competition for water and nutrients at the base of an established plant is great. Making a planting hole between the roots can also be quite hard!

Dig the hole 40-45cm (15-18") from the base of the tree or shrub. Ideally twice as wide as the pot the climber is growing in. Break up the bottom of the hole and add Fish Blood & Bone.

Lean the climber and its supporting cane towards the trunk of the tree or shrub.

Plant the rootball 5cm (2") deeper than the surrounding soil so that it has a moat around it to stop water running away from it when watering.



## Choosing your climbing plant

### Clematis

Well behaved early or late small Clematis are ideal. Choose early flowering Alpina and Macropetala varieties. There are lots to choose from with many different colours.

Late flowering varieties include all the small flowered Viticella varieties and many of the smaller late flowering hybrids.

This is Blue Angel but Jackmanii superba is great as well. Viticella Etoile Violette & Minuet are also our favourites.

### Honeysuckles (Lonicera)

This is Lonicera Americana, like the other varieties Belgica and Serotina, it is heavily perfumed but you must prune them lightly after flowering otherwise they can swamp a small tree or large shrub. The smaller flowered Japonica varieties like Halls Prolific aren't quite as showy but very fragrant, and not too aggressive towards their hosts!

### Roses

This is a David Austin variety of Climbing New English Rose named Mary Delany. These hybrids are not too vigorous so make ideal companions for small trees. They are very fragrant and repeat flowering during the summer, ideal for adding flowers to a spring flowering tree or large shrub.

## Growing Climbers up Trees & Shrubs



Using trees and shrubs to support climbing plants allows you to fit more flowers into your garden.

You can choose climbing plants to flower at the same time as your supporting plants or choose ones to flower in another season to extend the flowering interest in your garden.



### Which trees to act as supports?

Any variety of tree will do but you need to pair it up with a climbing plant that won't be too big for the tree to support. A large Rambling Rose or a large Clematis montana will need a large tree to support it, whereas a smaller early or late flowering Clematis is ideal for a Crab Apple, Cherry tree or Rowan.

**\*\* Always choose an established tree\*\***

### Which shrubs to act as supports?

Choose shrubs that grow taller than 1.2m (4ft). Some of our favourite candidates are:

Cotinus Royal Purple	Philadelphus Virginia
Elaeagnus ebbingeii	Ilex Golden King
Escallonia	Sambucus Black lac
Syringa (Lilac)	Physocarpus Diabel
Berberis ottawensis purpurea	

**\*\* Use any established shrub in your garden!\*\***

purple  
piglet  
project



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