**How Your Tree Is Selected**

Over the years, we have developed a tried and trusted, meticulous methodology to supply our customers with the best trees possible. This methodology is designed with the following principles in mind:

* Careful selection
* Maximum freshness
* Efficient transport
* Damage prevention
* Multiple stages of quality control

To achieve this, we use the following process:

* We view the trees several times per year in Scotland, and choose which fields and plantations our trees will be cut from. There are a number of considerations: transport distance to reduce carbon footprint, the colour, the shape and consistency of the trees, as well as the projected weather forecast to ensure a number of hard frosts before the trees are cut.
* We choose specific premium quality trees for and label them in the field in September time to ensure our customers receive only the very best trees. We also choose a variety so that we can meet requirements for a slim/bushy tree.
* The frost is vitally important as it helps the tree shut down and prepare it for being kept indoors through the Christmas period.
* The trees are cut between the end of November and mid December, depending upon the proposed delivery date. They are transported to a farm where they are measured and graded for a second time.
* At this point, the trunk is cut and placed in water so that the tree can begin drinking again.
* Every tree is hand picked for each customer. Two days before the delivery date, the tree is selected and checked for a third time to make sure that it meets the size and quality specifications, and any special requests which have been made.
* The tree is then labelled for the customer and netted through a Christmas tree netting funnel to make it easier to handle and transport.
* It is then packaged in a special tree transport bag. This bag is specifically designed for Christmas trees, and uses its shape, and material to provide full protection for the tree, whilst allowing it to breathe, and being as easy to handle as possible.
* As close to dispatch as possible 2cm is chopped off the butt of the tree – this opens the tree up as it will have likely sealed up shortly after it has been cut. Opening it up again at this stage means that it is more likely to drink water when placed in a water holding stand by the end customer. This cut may however close up again after 6/8 hours so it is important that customers carefully cut 2cm from the base of the tree before putting it up if they are able to do so.
* The tree is dispatched the day before it is due for delivery meaning that it spends a short a time as possible in transit.
* The customer receives a text/email at the time of the delivery being booked
* The night before, the customer receives a text/email with a 4 hour delivery slot
* The customer receives texts/emails throughout the day of their delivery to update on the progress of the driver
* If possible, the driver will call 30 mins before delivery
* Trees are cut at regular intervals throughout December to ensure that we constantly have a fresh supply of Christmas trees, and to reduce the time between the tree being cut, and it being delivered to the customer.
* AM/PM booking slots available
* Delivery Monday to Sunday (Saturday & Sunday subject to an £8 surcharge)
* Collection service available after Christmas

Prices from £xxx plus VAT

**Where the Trees are Grown**

Every tree has a story. Each plantation and field we harvest trees from has specific characteristics that display in the trees. A number of factors affect this – the location of the forest and local weather conditions, the type and composition of the soil, the type and provenance of seedlings used and the specialist skills of each grower.

Each type of tree requires very careful management and growing premium quality Christmas trees is a skilled and rare profession.

Our Nordmann fir trees (up to 8 feet) are grown on the edge of a small village hidden deep in the Scottish borders on a farm that has produced some of the best trees available each and every year. A dedicated team has perfected the art of nurturing the trees in their early years, before using a specialist hand pruning method to shape them into perfect specimens.

Our Fraser Fir trees are grown on a rather inaccessible piece of land called Dyke Foot in the heart of Scotland. Dyke Foot is an area at the top of a hill with fantastic views and is only accessible on foot or by tractor – it is not a place you can stumble upon. This land has a rather unique composition, which makes inhospitable for most plant life, but ideal for Fraser Fir.

Our larger trees are grown on two farms deep in the hills beyond Loch Lomond, and near the coast north of Fife. They are carefully tended to for over ten years using a range of special equipment to give a lovely shape.

By using a combination of locations for our trees, we can rely on the specialisms of each grower, and provide a resilient and consistent supply. We can also be flexible with the harvest of the tree and adapt to the local weather conditions to make sure that the trees have had sufficient frost before being cut.