

Pruning Maiden Trees (Open Centre Form)

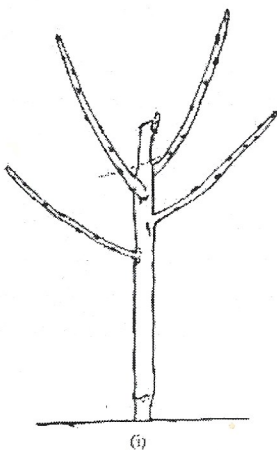


- Cut the leader back to two buds above the point where you want the top branch to form



- Use a sharp blade to place a nick underneath the top bud and remove the second bud completely

The tree one growing season after bud treatment



- Remove the snag caused by the bud treatment at the end of the growing season

Pruning a Two Year Old Tree in Open Centre Form



- A tree with 4 or 5 well spaced branches is the ideal.
- Remove any branches that are badly placed (e.g. too low or too congested)
- Prune all retained branches by between a third and a half of their length. Cut back to a healthy bud that faces outwards (in the case of erect growing branches) or upwards (in the case of flat growing branches).
- Overly erect and vigorous branches may be tied down