

Podcast: How to Choose the Perfect Tree for your Space, a Guide for Home Owners and Managers of Community Outdoor Spaces			
Section	Time MM:SS	Type	Content
Musical Introduction	00:00-00:10	Piano Music	John Bratton's 2-step, 1907, played by Nancy Litton
Introducing the Podcaster	00:09 – 00:22	Voice Recording, Nicole P-Jones	Hello and welcome to The Treeline, the podcast channel all about trees. This is Nicole, your host, and for those of you listening to The Treeline for the first time, I am a qualified horticulturist and garden designer and have a passion for trees.
Referral to previous podcast in series	00:23-00:38	Voice Recording, Nicole P-Jones	In previous podcasts in the series, you might remember that we outlined the global decline of tree cover and the knock-on effects on climate change. We also discussed the environmental and psychological benefits of living with trees, and the motivation this gives urban residents to plant a tree.
Today's podcast topic, target audience	00:39 - 00:53	Voice Recording, Nicole P-Jones	In this podcast, you will learn the process of how to choose a suitable tree for your space. The podcast is aimed at homeowners, or managers of small communal spaces, who wish to make an informed choice and avoid tree related problems in the future.
The learning objectives	00:54-01:27	Voice Recording, Nicole P-Jones	<p>I will teach you how to collect your wishes and restrictions around tree choice and organise them into categories using a spreadsheet. I will inform you about the factors influencing tree choice, and who to consult in this process and why.</p> <p>You will be able to share the information you collect, and your rough tree choice, with other listeners via the comments on the website. I, and other listeners, will give you feedback and suggestions, and I encourage you to post questions and photographs.</p>

			At the end of the podcast, I will go briefly through some examples from earlier listeners' posts so that you can benefit from their experiences.
Introduction of the high-level considerations	01:28-01:44	Voice Recording, Nicole P-Jones	<p>Let's start with some high-level considerations.</p> <p>The main considerations of tree choice are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • purpose, • location and size, • regulations, • health and safety, • and the consequences of planting an unsuitable tree. <p>These are not in any order.</p>
Purpose	01:45 – 02:26	41s Voice Recording, Nicole P-Jones	<p>The Purpose of planting a tree refers to what you want from a tree in your space, and who or what will be interacting with it, and how.</p> <p>Purposes might be for flowers, fruit, privacy, play, shade, aesthetics, or attracting wildlife.</p> <p>The best way to collect these is to ask or observe the people who already use or will use the space. You may find some conflicting wishes and need to negotiate a compromise.</p> <p>Consider your neighbours – they will also have to interact with your tree, without necessarily choosing to, and the tree could inflict unwanted shade and tree litter on their space such as leaves, or messy flowers and fruit. Also, it might grow to obscure their view.</p>

Location and Size	02:26-02:58	Voice Recording, Nicole P-Jones	<p>The second consideration is Location and Size. Location is partly influenced by purpose and can be restricted by regulations.</p> <p>The final dimensions of the tree must not be too big for the size of the garden.</p> <p>If you want a tree to provide a function like shade or privacy, then the location is obviously important, however, some trees can destabilise walls, invade drainage systems, or damage roofs.</p> <p>It makes sense to plant these as far away from structures as possible, which leads us nicely to the next point, Regulations.</p>
Regulations	02:29-03:21	Voice Recording, Nicole P-Jones	<p>Most councils have regulations preventing you from planting a tree that is over a certain maximum height or within a certain distance from a structure or the property boundary.</p> <p>Some regions restrict certain species for biosecurity reasons, and in some housing estates you are obliged to comply with a common outdoor aesthetic.</p> <p>You will need to clarify these as part of your planning.</p>
Health and Safety	03:22-03:48	Voice Recording, Nicole P-Jones	<p>The next point is Health and Safety:</p> <p>Some trees are poisonous, and some may have branches that are not robust enough to mount a swing on or hold the weight of children climbing them. Some trees' pollen can exacerbate hay fever.</p> <p>Trees should not be able to grow into overhead power lines. Climbing up a ladder to prune branches near power cables is extremely dangerous.</p> <p>Part of your preparation will be an assessment of your space for any potential dangers.</p>

The consequences of planting the wrong Tree	03:49-04:10	Voice Recording, Nicole P-Jones	<p>The last consideration is more of a warning: Ill-considered planting can be expensive. If a tree needs to be removed, it will almost always be when it has grown to a size where it has prompted a complaint or caused damage.</p> <p>At this point it will be too big to remove oneself. You could then be liable for a fine, the repair, and the tree removal.</p>
Instruction to gather equipment	04:11-04:33	Voice Recording, Nicole P-Jones	<p>Before the next segment starts, you can pause the podcast if you wish and find a laptop with Excel, or paper and pen to make notes.</p> <p>We will be creating a grid together for you to note your requirements and constraints.</p> <p>On the website I have posted a template to get you started and a list of possible categories for you to refer to when going through your analysis.</p>
Music during pause to gather equipment	04:32-04:38	Piano Music	John Bratton's 2-step, 1907, played by Nancy Litton

Getting started on the spreadsheet	04:38-05:38	Voice Recording, Nicole P-Jones	<p>Now that you are ready, you can start creating your spreadsheet. The heading of column A will be “Trees”. Give the trees a temporary name for now.</p> <p>Along the top row, starting from column B, you will enter your headings for general information, wishes, and restrictions. I would recommend using background colours for the headers to distinguish:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • those where you <u>must</u> consult e.g., the local council, • those where you <u>should</u> consult those around you like family or neighbours, • and those you can decide yourself. <p>Some answers will be descriptive e.g., aspect: “west” or autumn colour: “orange”, and some might be “yes/ no” answers e.g., electrical lines: “yes, south corner”. You could even draw a rough map if you wish.</p> <p>Start with the potentially most restrictive headings and refer to the list of categories provided. Enter the ones that you think are relevant to you into your spreadsheet. Not all will apply. Ask for advice in the website comments if you need.</p>
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Consulting the local council and area survey	05:39-06:35	Voice Recording, Nicole P-Jones	<p>The next two steps are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• to consult your local council,• and to do your area survey for physical characteristics, and possible dangers and difficulties. <p>These steps can be done in parallel.</p> <p>Ask the local council about</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• height and spread restrictions,• planting distance from property borders or walls,• banned or discouraged species,• any rights of way or easements on the property that cannot be blocked,• underground plumbing, mains gas lines, fibre optic cables,• and whether there is anything else you haven't thought of. <p>Then do a walk around your space noting any other fixtures that might cause an issue, like</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• overhead power lines,• or the locations of security cameras and streetlights.
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			<p>At the same time, not the physical characteristics of the space like</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • aspect, • soil type, • sun or shade cover, • climate. <p>Don't forget to consider the space from both outside and inside the building.</p>
Consulting neighbours and other space users	06:36-06:48	Voice Recording, Nicole P-Jones	<p>With the restrictions clarified you can now consult with your neighbours and note their concerns and preferences.</p> <p>Lastly, speak to the current and future users of the space for their ideas on usage and aesthetics.</p> <p>Note your findings in the spreadsheet as you go. What you find will steadily clarify your options.</p>
Listener does their own needs collection	06:48-07:02	Voice Recording, Nicole P-Jones	<p>Now you are equipped to start your own needs analysis.</p> <p>Good luck, and don't forget to post back about your experiences in the comments on the website.</p>

Examples from listener posts	07:04-08:42	Voice Recording, Nicole P-Jones	<p>As promised, here are some short examples from previous listeners:</p> <p>John, recently retired, had a small garden where he wanted to plant 2-3 fruit trees that also produced spring flowers.</p> <p>He found out from his council that there was an underground storm water drain running down one side of his garden.</p> <p>His neighbour on the other side, though, was willing to tolerate fruit trees on their communal property border if he could pick some of the over hanging fruit.</p> <p>John agreed and decided to buy 3 fruit tree varieties that were small enough for him to harvest from, and prune, without having to climb a ladder.</p> <p>-----</p> <p>Kate, a keen home chef, wanted to have easy access to the specialised citrus she used in southeast Asian cooking.</p> <p>Learning from The Treeline site comments that citrus trees are sub-tropical to tropical, she realised that they would not survive outside during the winter.</p> <p>She decided to plant 2 citrus trees in large pots that she could wheel in and out of her conservatory depending on the season.</p>
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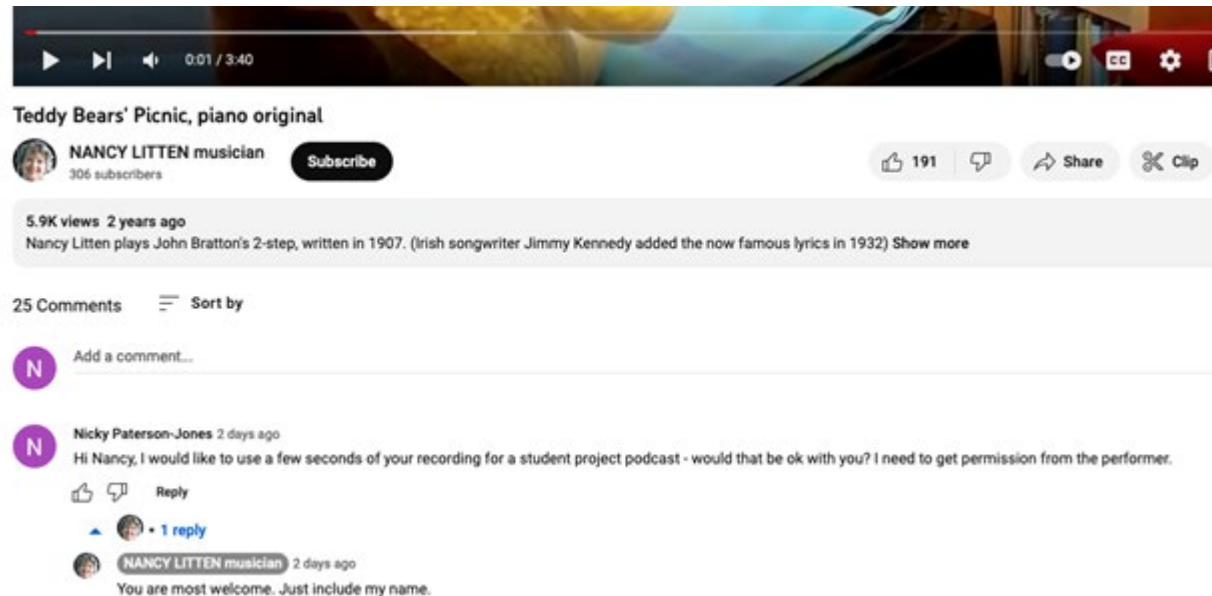
			<p>She found out, via a listener tip, that she could buy trees that were grafted onto dwarf root stock that restricted their size for easy transfer.</p> <p>-----</p> <p>Roger posted that he had moved into a house some months earlier and at first enjoyed the view of the tree planted just beyond the patio, with its glossy dark green leaves.</p> <p>After wondering what it was and searching online, he came across The Treeline site, posted a photo, and learnt that it was a Ficus species, notorious for invasive roots that penetrate and block drains.</p> <p>After checking with his council, he was instructed to remove it at his own cost. Luckily, it had not yet caused any damage to his house.</p>
Wrap Up and Next Week's Podcast Topic	08:43-09:14	Voice Recording, Nicole P-Jones	<p>Well, that concludes this week's podcast. I hope you can join us again next week when the podcast will be about sourcing and buying your tree.</p> <p>By then you should have finished populating your spreadsheet and be able to discuss your requirements knowledgably with a tree specialist.</p> <p>You will be introduced to some online tools and be shown where to go to in person to buy a tree from someone who is genuinely qualified to advise you.</p> <p>I look forward to your questions and comments in the meantime. For now, it's goodbye from The Treeline, and me, your host, Nicole.</p>

Musical playout	09:13-	Piano Music	John Bratton's 2-step, 1907, played by Nancy Litton
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References:

Gagné, R. M., Wager, W. W., Golas, K. C., Keller, J. M. (2004) *Principles of Instructional Design*, 5th ed., Wadsworth: Belmont, California

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The website, [https://imslp.org/wiki/The_Teddy_Bears' Picnic \(Bratton%2C John Walter\)](https://imslp.org/wiki/The_Teddy_Bears'_Picnic_(Bratton%2C_John_Walter)), lists the musical notation as public domain based on the following criteria in Europe:

https://imslp.org/wiki/IMSLP:Public_Domain: For music published before 1927, in the EU, it becomes public domain 70 years after the death of the composer. This piece was published in 1917, and John Bratton died in 1947, 75 years ago.