

®

Foundations

Soil-net.com

Why don't trees fall over?

They stand so tall, they sway in high wind. So why don't they blow over...?!

It's all in the soil!!

Just like you can't build a house without foundations, a plant cannot stay upright without similar support.



Soil allows roots to grow through it

As plants grow up and out, the roots grow down and through. Different plants have different root systems – including "tap", "heart" and "flat" roots.



Soil surrounds roots and prevents them being pulled out of the ground.

One of the major roles of plant roots is to anchor the plant firmly in the soil, and prevent it being blown over.



Careful!!

This doesn't always happen. Some bigger trees can be unstable in bad weather.

So how does soil keep them upright?

- Soil provides an **anchorage** for trees and other plants that grow above ground.
- Roots grow down and through soil throughout the life of a plant – they are the plant's foundation!
- Without the possibility of a root network a plant couldn't grow tall and strong

