



**Suffolk & Essex
Coast & Heaths
National
Landscape**

Why are hedgerows so important?

**Hedgerows are an
important habitat for
our wildlife.**



**They act as 'Nature
Corridors', connecting
other fragmented
habitats.**

**They can help prevent
flooding, by reducing
run-off on farmland
and increasing water
infiltration.**



**Hedges capture carbon at twice the
rate of woodland and England's
hedges already store 9 million
tonnes of carbon!**

Where should I plant a hedgerow?



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Anywhere you can! Particularly where a hedge could connect with other hedges, woodlands and habitats.



You must choose the best native hedge plants for your area and soil type.

You can look at what grows well nearby to help you decide.

A mixture of plants will increase biodiversity and create a more resilient hedge. Common plants include: Hawthorn, Hazel, Field Maple, Blackthorn, Dogwood, Dog Rose, Spindle & Holly.



You can find out more by using this QR code or by visiting:

**[suffolktreewardens.org.uk/
alive-in-five](https://suffolktreewardens.org.uk/alive-in-five)**



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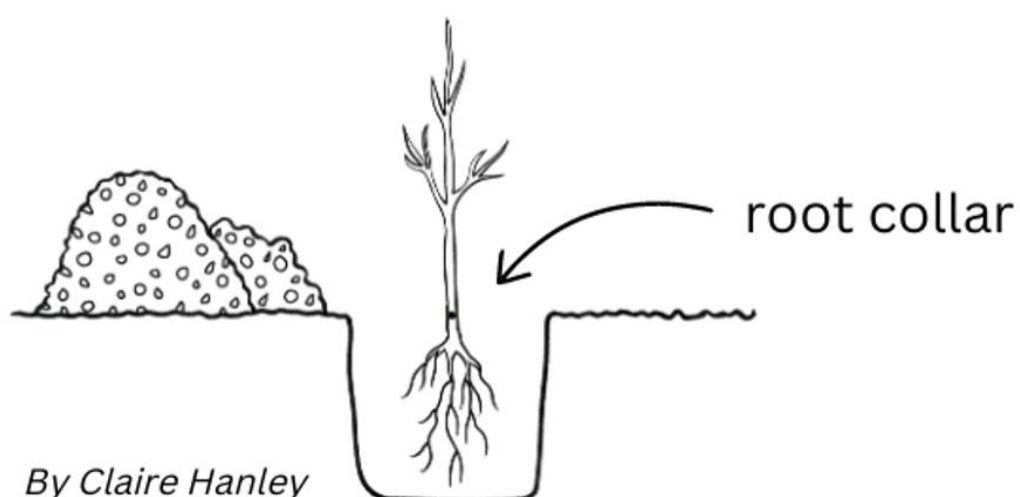
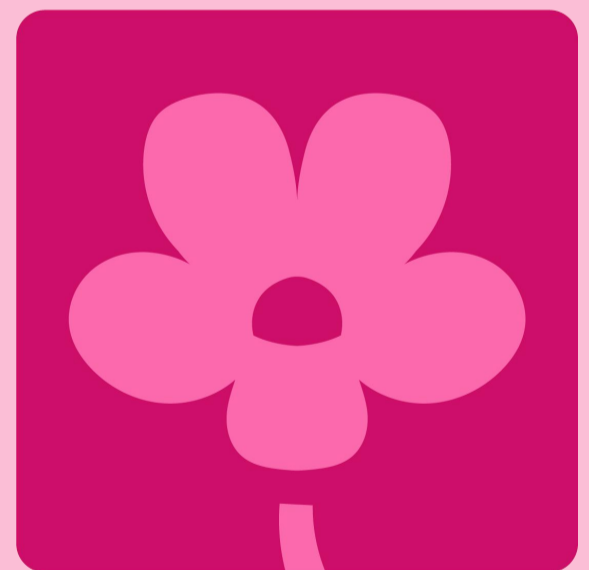
How do I plant a hedgerow?

**Treat new saplings with care,
making sure to keep their roots
moist and protected from wind
and frost.**



**For thick traditional
hedges, plant 5 saplings
per metre in a double
staggered row, with
50cm between each row.**

**The best time to plant is when the
saplings are dormant between
November & February.**



**Make sure the roots are
completely buried. Wait
for the ground to thaw if
it is frosted or snow-
covered.**

How do I care for a new hedgerow?



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New hedges can't be left alone, they'll need care for at least 5 years after planting.



Tubes, spirals or fencing may be needed to prevent grazing from deer and rabbits.

Young hedges will need watering during dry periods. Spreading mulch, straw or wood chip can retain moisture and prevent competition from other plants.



- Check your hedge regularly:**
- . Weed in and around tubes**
 - . Replace broken/missing tubes**
 - . Replace dead plants over winter**
 - . Recycle or dispose of tubes when they are no longer needed**

Don't leave tubes on this long!



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How do I manage a hedgerow?

A healthy hedgerow that supports lots of wildlife needs to be thick and bushy. Where possible, standard trees should be allowed to grow every 5-10 metres.



The bird nesting season runs from February to August, so hedgerow cutting should be done outside of this time. Most hedgerow plants only fruit on 2 year old wood, meaning it is beneficial to trim hedges every other year.

It's important to leave wide wild flower and grass margins adjacent to hedges, ideally 2m wide.



Older straggly hedgerows may require coppicing and new planting to fill gaps.



**For more information
on hedgerow
management, scan
the QR code.**

