



Tree Sand Users & Architects Guide

When?

For planting trees in urban situations, where the rootzone around the rootball needs to be compacted to carry pedestrian and vehicular traffic.

Why?

When lightly compacted, Heicom Tree Sand will be strong enough to prevent subsidence and yet contain sufficient pore space and nutrition to allow the root systems of the tree to benefit from the free flow of oxygen and moisture. Trees planted in conventional tree pits have been found to stagnate after a few years as the root systems come up against the impenetrable mass of the typical below pavement formation. A dead or dying, mature or semi-mature tree in a prestigious urban setting has to be replaced immediately and the cost is considerable.

What is it?

Heicom Tree Sand is a special mix of washed, semi-rounded silica sand and organics blended to a formula developed following research by Dutch Universities.

How much?

As a rule of thumb 5m³ for a small tree is the minimum requirement but much will depend on the variety of tree, the area of the intended crown development, space availability etc.

How?

The aim is to allow oxygen and moisture through to the rootzone and through the rootzone to permit healthy development of the tree. All situations will vary, but in a typical urban scheme it would be appropriate to dig a 1m deep trench sufficiently wide to accommodate 5m³ of tree sand per tree to allow the root systems to develop laterally where they would otherwise come up against the pavement formation. In other situations individual tree pits should be dug. Once the pit is dug the tree sand should be laid around the tree in 400mm layers before being compacted with a whacker plate. The tree sand can then be topped with 150mm of free draining sand before the installation of the paved surface. It is important to note that the nature of the surface will control the amount of oxygen and moisture getting to the rootzone.

When ordering:

1m³ of loose tree sand will weigh 1.3 tonnes approximately and 1m³ of compacted tree sand will weigh 1.6 tonnes approx.



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