

INSTALLATION GREEN SCREEN

Screen dimensions-120 wide x 180cm high (Provides screen 180cm above ground)
Integral growing basket with cocopot- 25 x 25cm (Planted at ground level)
Mesh dimensions 10 x 25cm

Posts required: 2.4m x 100mm tanalised posts to provide 1.8m support above ground.
(Galvanised metal 60mm posts can be supplied).

Postcrete in the posts to ensure concrete 30cm below surface to allow for planting
trough and root growth

Galvanised fixing security brackets are available. Four per screen.



If to be planted in soil:

Before starting the actual installation, one needs to determine exactly what the required fence length should be. The standard size of the Green Screen is 120cm (length) by either 180cm or 100cm (height after planting). The allowance for posts and brackets is approximately 16cm (depending on the type of posts used), resulting in a distance of approximately 136cm between the centres of two consecutive posts.

The length of the Green Screen can be adjusted in height by multiples of 10 cm and width by multiples of 25cm by using a bolt-cutter, because the mesh of the metal base panel is 10cm wide and 25 cm high.

Installation:

- Dig a trench of 35cm wide and 35cm deep.
(Ensure the trench is continuous with soil below the trench and that it is loosened for drainage. Add drainage chippings if necessary)
- Place tanalised 2.4m x 100mm posts) at 136cm intervals (centre-centre), in concrete for increased stability (see picture 1)
Make sure the concrete is 30cm below ground level to allow enough room for the cocopot and root growth
- Loosen the subsoil at the bottom of the trench and add water in case the soil is dry (it is difficult to increase the moisture level of dry subsoil once the screens are planted).
- Apply Professional Rootgrow (Call 01752 8291278) and apply a top dressing after 1 month of established growth
- Plant the screens in the trenches, while making sure the top of the biodegradable pot reaches just below the surface level of the surrounding soil.
- Fix the screens to the brackets and described in detail below. Tighten all brackets **(make sure none of the stems are squeezed by the brackets)**
- Fill the remaining space of the trench with general-purpose compost, and firm the soil gently so that the pot has good contact with the soil (see picture 2).
- Water well directly after planting in order to fill all remaining air locks with soil.



INSTALLATION MANUAL UNIVERSAL BRACKET FOR WOODEN POSTS

When wooden posts are used for installing Mobilane Smart Screens, four universal brackets are needed per screen. The bracket is universal as it can be fitted on each size of wooden post, both softwood and hardwood (tropical wood). The following schedule needs to be followed for the right results:

1. Measurement of bracket position.

Two brackets are needed on each side of the Smart Screen. One bracket to be fixed on the highest (but one) horizontal wire and one bracket on the fourth horizontal wire above the biodegradable pot.



2. Pre-drilling.

When using hardwood (tropical wood) it is necessary to pre-drill a hole for the metal screw with a 6 mm drill bit. When using soft wood, pre-drilling of holes is not required.

3. Installing screw.

The supplied screw (M8) can be fitted in the posts (in the pre-drilled hole if applicable) by using a Torque 25 bit.

4. Placing of bracket.

The slot in the bracket is placed over the end of the screw and tightened with the supplied flange nut. The upper bracket needs to be fixed first and is “carrying” the Smart Screen (horizontal wire is in the groove facing up), photo 4. The lower bracket is “locking” the Smart Screen by placing the groove facing down on top of the horizontal wire, photo 5. **It is important that the brackets are the correct way up.**



NOTES

If wanted, an additional woodscrew can be applied in the small hole beside the main slot (in general this is not needed, but it might be necessary when posts of a very soft type wood are used). The bracket can also be fixed onto (concrete) walls in which case an additional plastic plug needs to be inserted in the pre-drilled hole before fixing the screw.

Considerations:

- Once established with the Rootgrow, after 1 month the addition of slow release fertilisers is essential.
- A quick release fertiliser can also be applied when planting in autumn.
- In general plants develop the same volume below ground level as they do above, hence the rooting zone should not be limited by obstacles (e.g. concrete slabs, impenetrable subsoil).
- Improvement of sub soil structure and quality might be necessary, depending on local circumstances (e.g. planting in/around construction sites).
- If the Green Screens are placed “in a concrete environment” (e.g. around a stone terrace) the levels need to be checked:
 - if the screens are at the lowest point all rain water might run off onto them and they can drown when remaining wet for too long a period → drainage pipe
 - if the screens are at the highest point penetration of rain water can be limited → extra watering

If to be planted in a trough,

The troughs are supplied with easy assembly instructions.

To stabilise the Ivy screens within the troughs obtain* tanalised 75mm x 2.2m or 1.4m posts (i.e. 1.8m or 1.0m above soil, depending upon height of selected screens).

*It is more cost effective to obtain your own tanalised posts from a local stockist.

To fix the posts to the troughs, drill the trough sides and posts in situ on site. This permits the option of positioning the living screen centrally or off-set or even in direct contact with the front or back of the trough

Fix the posts to the troughs with the supplied 130mm stainless steel coach bolts/nuts and washers

Attach the living screens to the posts with the galvanised brackets supplied with the Ivy Screens. (See earlier detailed description of fixing the brackets)

Ensure that the brackets to attach the living screens are fitted, as shown in the instructions herewith.

MAINTENANCE 'GREEN SCREEN' PLANTED IN THE GROUND

Pruning

In the year of planting, pruning is not advisable. Thereafter pruning should be carried out once or twice a year in order to keep a compact hedge. Best months for pruning are April / May and September / October.

Fertilisers (See guidance notes above regarding Rootgrow)

After a month the mycorrhiza will have started to develop within the plant root system, so now fertilisers will be essential for the welfare of the screens. The planting medium does not contain any nutrients so these must be introduced. A good quality slow release fertilizer, such as Osmocote is the most effective way of feeding your living screens. Most provide 3 to 6 month supply, so re-apply as appropriate. Alternatively a liquid fertilizer, such as Miracle Gro can be applied once a week as part of the watering regime. (Note that the type to be used depends on soil type and nutrient levels of the soil.)

An application of slow release fertiliser in September is recommended for the winter months. Failure to provide the screens with sufficient food will result in the plants failing.

An annual feeding with slow release fertilisers in spring is essential. Additional feedings might be required with soils showing deficiencies, which could be indicated by a soil-testing laboratory.

Pests and diseases

Symptoms of presence of a pest or disease should be diagnosed by an expert. He/she can determine the type of organism involved and judge the need for a treatment. As the 'Green Screen' is a nesting place for bird life, chemical applications should be avoided as much as possible

Watering

The Green Screen needs to be adequately watered for the first summer after installation late April to September.

NOTE: We recommend the installation of a basic timer/leaky pipe irrigation system.

MAINTENANCE 'GREEN SCREEN' IN TROUGHS

Pruning

In the year of planting, pruning is not advisable. Thereafter pruning should be carried out once or twice a year in order to keep a compact hedge. Best months for pruning are April / May and September / October.

Watering

The Green Screen needs to be adequately watered at least three times per week and more in warm or windy weather. This must be done even if there has been rain as the planter will not get sufficient moisture in the planting medium from rain. In the winter months the plants will still need moisture so weekly watering is essential. Failure to provide the screens with sufficient water will result in the plants failing. It is recommended that watering is done in the evening or morning to reduce the possibility of scorching.

As above, we recommend a timer irrigation system.

Fertilisers

As recommended above when first planted, apply mycorrhizal Rootgrow.
(See website for more information)

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YEARLY MAINTENANCE SCHEDULE

- **FIRST QUARTER**

General check of irrigation system.

Ensure all plants are in a healthy condition and treat where necessary

Refill the irrigation system and confirm all areas are operational.

Check and fill feed tanks

- **SECOND QUARTER**

Full check of the irrigation system including drip hoses and flow rates.

Feed plants.

Ensure all plants are in a healthy condition and treat where necessary.

Prune plants when required.

Wind in and train new growth where required.

- **THIRD QUARTER**

Check irrigation system.

Ensure all plants are in a healthy condition and treat where necessary.

Prune plants when required.

Wind in and train new growth where required.

Empty feed tanks.

- **FOURTH QUARTER**

Full check of the irrigation system including drip hoses and flow rates.

Ensure all plants are in a healthy condition and treat where necessary

Drain the irrigation system to prevent freezing.

Ensure the irrigation system is safe guarded against winter conditions

NB

During the first 6 months following installation visits will be required every 2 weeks.

TECHNICAL INFORMATION 'GREEN SCREEN'

The 'Green Screen' is a living fence, consisting of a galvanised metal grid covered with plants. The metal grid is folded at the bottom to facilitate a biodegradable pot, which is filled with potting soil. The plants are grown in this soil and trailed along the metal grid in order to get full coverage.

The biodegradable pot consists of coconut fibres bond together by natural latex. Once the 'Green Screen' is installed this pot will degrade within one or two years, depending on structure, nutrient levels and moisture levels of the sub soil.