

# Root Guiding or Root Barrier?

The first step in selecting the right system

## The difference between Root Guiding and Root Barriers.

A root barrier has smooth sides and can be made of various materials such as non-woven fabric or HDPE.

A tree root will follow along the panel once it has reached the root barrier due to a root barrier being smooth and having no ribs to guide roots. When a root barrier is installed too close to a tree it has a de-stabilizing or 'flower pot' effect. The root guiding panel is unique and has no alternatives. The guiding panel is provided with 90° vertical ribs; when the tree root comes into contact with the guiding panel the ribs direct root growth downwards. When the root arrives at the bottom of the panel it can proceed growing along its horizontal or radial path (when the tree pit is correctly prepared). The guiding panel is also provided with ground locks to stop roots lifting up the system as they exit beneath. The panels also have a double

upper edge to make sure the roots cannot grow over the top edge and has a simple coupling system that enables the panels to be easily connected.

## When to use Root Guiding?

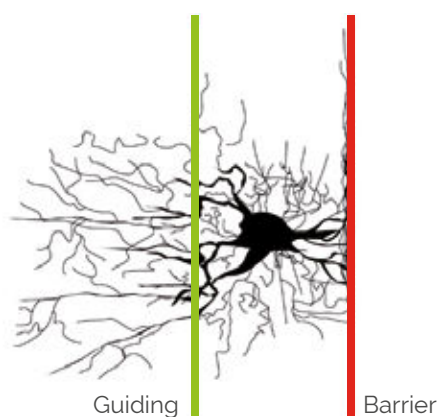
Root guidance is used at a distance of less than 2 m from the tree (this is a guideline, it is depending of the trunk flare). It is used as a protection for the road surfacing and to guarantee the necessary stability of the tree.

## When to use a Root Barrier?

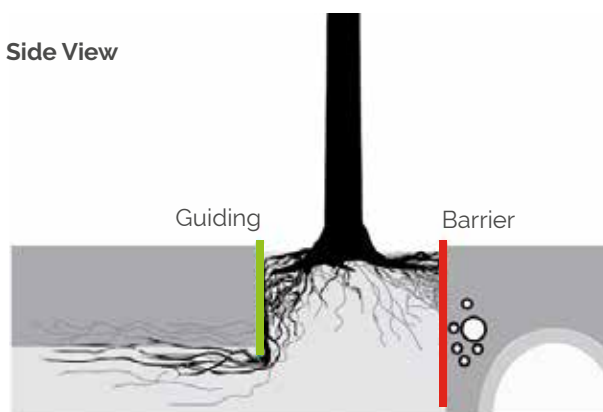
Root barriers are used to create root-free zones, for example to protect underground utility services against root growth. Root barriers can only be used if the available rotatable space is sufficient for the tree species. As a rule of thumb, we advise a minimum of 2 m between the root barrier and the tree.

## Effect of Root Guiding and Root Barriers

Top View



Side View



Guiding



Barrier

# Root Guiding of Root Barrier?

System **within**  
2 meters of the tree?

System **2 meters**  
**away** from the tree?

