

# A guide to selecting the correct Eکیدna Tree Guard for your situation

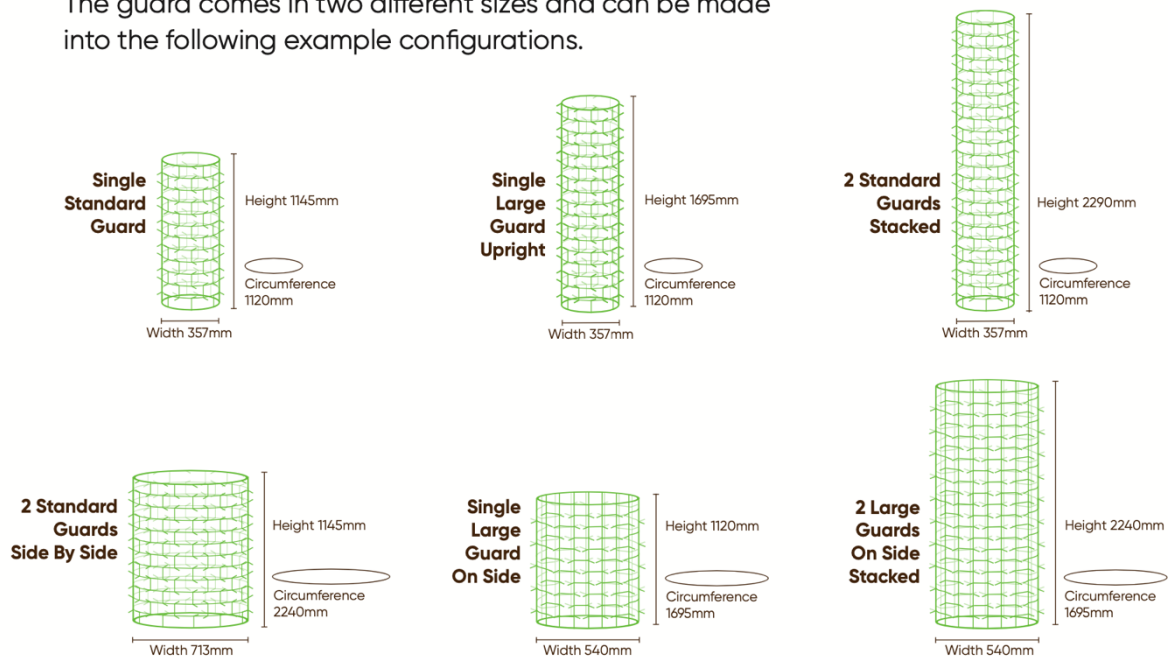
Thank you for your interest in purchasing Eکیدna Tree Guards. The following is some information we provide to help you select appropriate guards for your situation.

Please take the time to assess the animals you wish to protect your plants from and what configuration of guard would be effective. If you are unsure of the effectiveness of your selection, then we recommend installing a small number of trial guards with some heavy animal pressure to ensure they work.

## Guard selection and configuration

While single Eکیدna Guard only comes in 2 sizes, standard and large, guards can be joined to provide many different configurations of protection for your plants. The diagram below provides some example configurations including associated dimensions.

The guard comes in two different sizes and can be made into the following example configurations.



In the vast majority of cases, single guards meet your needs but please keep the following in mind:

1. The guards can be vulnerable when an animal can get its head over the top of the guard and push down where there are not spikes. Please ensure your guard configuration takes into account the maximum browse height of the guard(s).



2. The standard guard (our smallest guard) is not appropriate for cattle or deer protection as it is not high enough. Please select the height of the large guard (at least) for these animals.
3. Some cattle are very tall, and getting larger via breeding all the time, so a guard even higher than the 1700mm large guard may be required for these animals.
4. Livestock with parasite loads may scratch against the guard spikes. We have found this to be very rare (<0.1% installs), but if you know your cattle excessively rub on things such as barb wire we recommend you trial some guards in their paddock before installing large numbers to ensure they work with your herd.
5. The pressure animals put on the guards will be determined by several variables including pasture availability and how frequently they are rotated through a paddock.
6. Consider the size and growing requirements of your plants. Some plants are not at all worried by side branches being pruned as they grow out of a thin guard, others are more affected. Consult with a plant/nursery expert where you are purchasing the plants if you need to learn more.

Please do not take the above to mean the guards are not effective. There have been very few cases where there have been issues with the use of guards, however we cannot remotely design the right guard for each installation situation so if you have concerns the golden rule we always recommend is to please trial with a small number of guards first.

### Post selection and design

The following is guidance for posts with the guards:

1. Eکیدna Tree Guard does not sell posts as the freight costs are too high for our customers and our retail partners already sell them.
2. Lengths of rebar or star pickets can be used as posts.
3. If using rebar, we recommend 12mm diameter and a minimum of 3x1500mm long posts are used. This gets you 4 posts from a standard 6000mm long piece of rebar. If you expect med-high pressure on a tall guard we recommend you extend the post length to 2000mm or three posts from a standard length. Always put 500mm in the ground.
4. Eکیدna sells a light weight and effective rebar post driver to assist with installation.
5. If using star pickets use a minimum of 2 pickets per guard. Second hand pickets are good to reuse for this task and reduces overall cost.

### Guard installation

We have videos on our website showing how to roll and install the guards.

### Further information

If after reading this you still have questions, please don't hesitate to contact us via phone or email to discuss your options.