

How to: Install Bud Caps

Bud caps are just one tool in the toolbox to protect your trees against deer browse.

Once you have the directions down, you can reuse this sheet of paper to make your own bud caps using the cut lines provided!

Supplies:

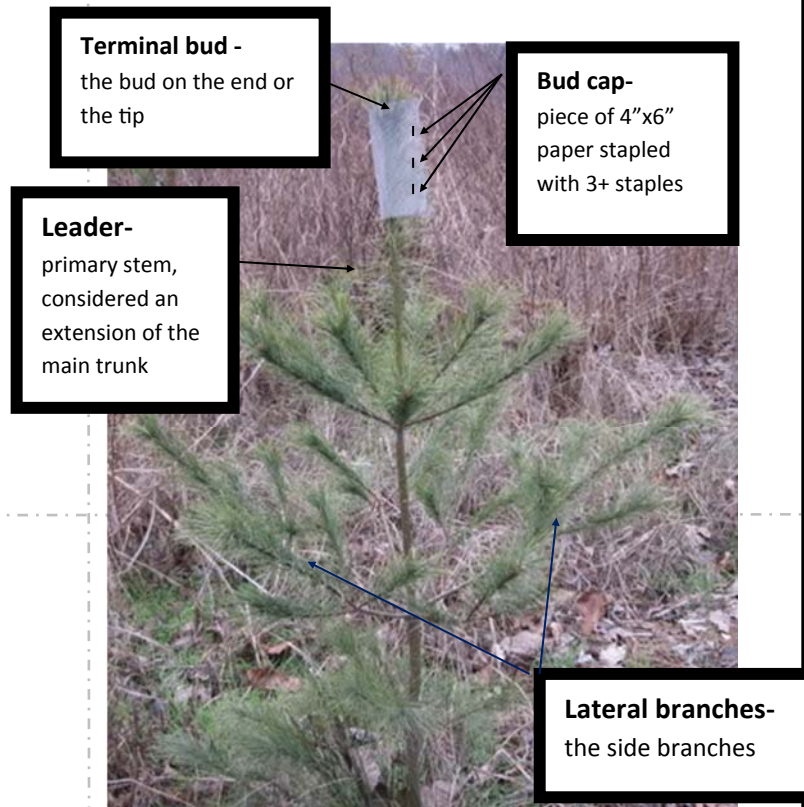
- Paper, cut into pieces approximately 4" x 6"
- Stapler
- Extra staples

Steps:

1. Identify the leader and its terminal bud
2. Fold the piece of paper sideways in half around the terminal bud (so the paper ends up being 4"x 3" with the seam on the side)
3. Make sure the paper covers the terminal bud because this is the part that you are protecting from browse
4. Staple the vertical edge of the paper with at least 3 staples, making sure to catch some of the needles in the staples so it won't blow off and deer can't take it off.

Timing:

Tree caps should be replaced every year until the tree is four feet tall or until the tree is tall enough that the deer can't reach the bud from the top of the snow



Notes:

- Do not staple the top of the bud cap. The point of the bud cap being open is that it allows the terminal bud to grow up through the paper sleeve in the spring.
- Bud caps do not need to be removed in the spring if installed correctly.
- Bud caps should be reapplied every year until the tree is at least 4 feet tall and out of reach of deer.

