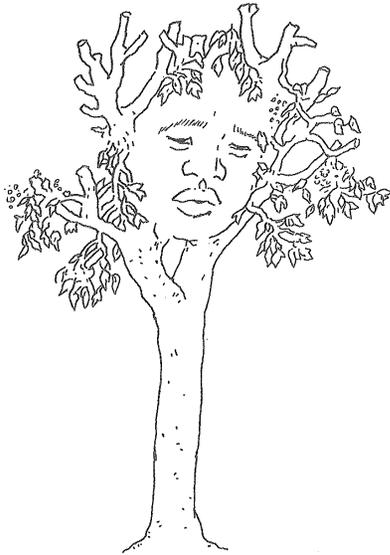


*About
Aloha Arborist Association*

Aloha Arborist Association's (AAA's) mission is to educate the tree care industry and public about proper tree care in the State of Hawaii. For more information about proper tree care, please visit alohaarborist.com and click on "Links".

For more information about our membership, please visit alohaarborist.com and click on "Members".

DON'T TOP TREES!



Revised 8/2017

Branch Bark Ridges Vary

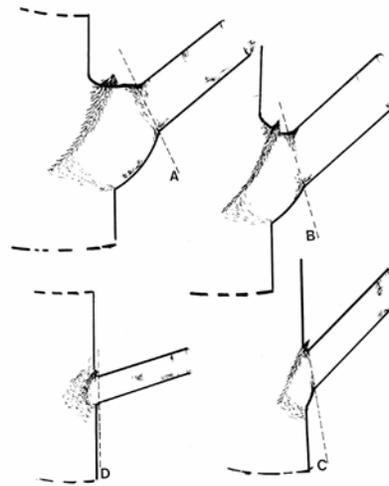


diagram by Dr. Alex L. Shigo

Proper Reduction Pruning Cut

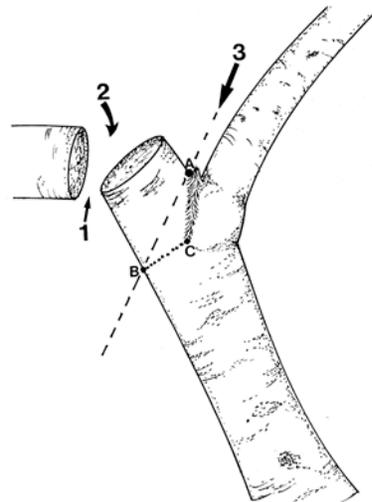


diagram by Dr. Alex L. Shigo

Is Your Tree Forcing You to Prune It? Fight Back with

**PROPER
PRUNING
TECHNIQUES**

and Some Helpful

**TREE CARE
GUIDELINES**

Presented by
Aloha Arborist Association (AAA)



www.alohaarborist.com
(808) 518-6141
info@alohaarborist.com

TREE/SITE CONSIDERATIONS

- ◆ Consider how much work the mature tree will be before you plant the young tree.
- ◆ Don't plant a mango in your small yard just because you like mangoes. Think about planting a dwarf variety or a different tree instead.
- ◆ If you purchase a house with a large tree in a small yard, ask yourself if you have the resources and resolve to maintain it. Seriously consider replacing the large tree with a smaller one.
- ◆ If you are "stuck" with the wrong tree in the wrong place, please use correct pruning practices to control its growth. Lighter, more frequent pruning is better.
- ◆ Will your tree be located on the windy side of the house? It may keep your lanai from being too windy but you may also end up with leaves and flowers in your lanai.

Remember,

*Embrace it or
replace it!*

GROWING CONDITIONS

- ◆ Adequate water is essential. The grass can be green but the tree may still not be receiving enough water to thrive. Too much water is bad for trees as well.
- ◆ Is the soil compacted? Does the water run off or puddle? Trees prefer soil with some organic matter and proper aeration.
- ◆ Is there adequate sunlight? Trees use sunlight to make food through their leaves. Large trees planted between buildings or adjacent to another large tree may struggle to grow to your expectations.

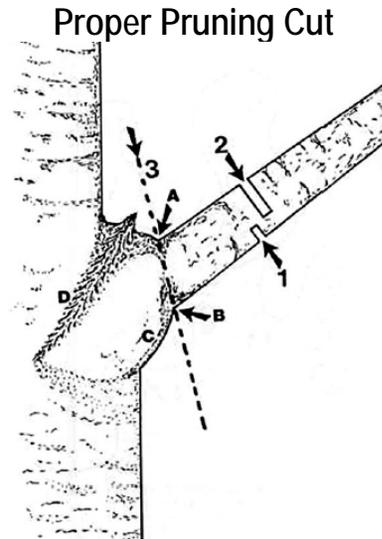


diagram by Dr. Alex L. Shigo

PRUNE WITH PURPOSE

- ◆ Be specific about your pruning objective. Does the tree block your view or your neighbor's view? Does it hit your roof or bump your head? Does it make too much rubbish? Does your neighbor not like "your" leaves?
- ◆ Do you have the proper tools: a hand saw, loppers, or a pole pruner? It is easier to prune than it is to clean up. Are you prepared to finish the job?
- ◆ Can you make the proper pruning cuts? A "flush cut" or cut flush to the trunk harms the tree. Leaving "stubs" provides food for pests. "Topping" a tree should be avoided.
- ◆ If you want to prune your tree to promote good health, then please remove the dead, diseased, and rubbing branches.
- ◆ If the tree is over ten feet high, hire a professional.