

URBAN 
LUMBERJACKS, INC.
A COMPLETE TREE WORKS COMPANY

376 Corral de Tierra Road
Salinas, CA 93908
(408) 373-0149
Cal. # 644238



PRUNING STANDARDS

PURPOSE:

Trees and other woody plants respond in specific and predictable ways to pruning and other maintenance practices. Careful study of these responses has led to pruning practices which best preserve and enhance the beauty, structural integrity, and functional value of trees.

In an effort to preserve tree structure and health, URBAN LUMBERJACKS, has adopted the following Standards of Pruning. The Standards are presented as working guidelines, recognizing that trees are individually unique in form and structure, and that their pruning needs may not always fit strict rules.

1. PRUNING TECHNIQUES

- A. A thinning cut removes a branch at its point of attachment or shortens it to a lateral large enough to assume the terminal role. Thinning opens up a tree, reduces weight on heavy limbs, can reduce a tree's height, distributes ensuing invigoration throughout a tree and helps retain the tree's natural shape. Thinning cuts are therefore preferred in tree pruning.

When shortening a branch or leader, the lateral to which it is cut should be at least one-half the diameter of the of the cut being made. Removal of a branch or leader back to sufficiently large lateral is often called "drop crotching".

- B. A heading cut removes a branch to a stub, a bud or a lateral branch not large enough to assume the terminal role. Heading cuts should not be used because vigorous, weakly attached upright sprouts are forced just below such cuts, and the tree's natural form is altered. In some situations, branch stubs die or produce only weak sprouts. Trees shall not be topped unless necessary for utility line clearance or establishment and/or maintenance of an existing hedge.

