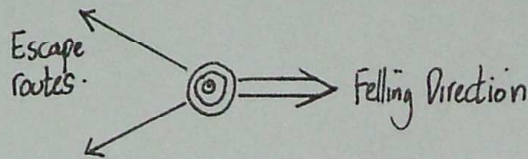


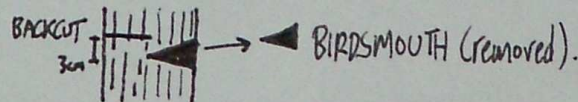
Safe Tree Felling

It is good practice to follow these basic guidelines with trees over 4m high and 15cm stem diameter.

1. Ensure toecapped boots, gloves and hardhats are worn at all times.
2. Ensure warning signs are in place. 1-2 workers to keep an eye out for members of the public approaching site.
3. Create escape routes in opposite direction to felling direction.



4. Clear away obstructing vegetation and all lower branches of tree to be felled to a height of 2 metres from the ground.
5. Put in BIRDSMOUTH, as close to ground as safely as possible, at 90° to felling direction.
6. Put in BACKCUT roughly 3cm above base of birdsmouth, on opposite side of tree (treat the birdsmouth as being at the front of the tree, and the backcut at the rear).



7. Ensure everyone in the vicinity of the tree are wearing hardhats. If they are not, then they should move away from the tree to a distance of double the trees' height.
8. As tree starts to fall, a creaking, then cracking sound should be heard. Shout BACKCUT or TIMBER to warn other workers of the trees imminent demise. Also, as tree begins to fall, move away from it, in opposite way to felling direction (ie; along escape route). You should have a HINGE left after felling, roughly 2cm wide, which helps to control the tree whilst it is falling.
9. Dismember each tree as felled, logs into 2 metre lengths, brash into lengths/piles as required.
10. Keep site tidy as work progresses!

