
FRUITING PEAR

PEAR CARE

There are three main types of pears, European summer, European winter, and Asian. European pears have a soft texture and ripen off the tree, while Asian pears are crisp and apple-like and ripen on the tree. European and Asian pears grow best in full sun with well drained soil, although they can tolerate more clayey and wet soil compared to other fruit trees. Pears, like most fruit trees benefit from annual fertilization. Planting in ideal conditions with yearly maintenance are a growers first preventative techniques for combating diseases but, depending on the variety, pears grown in the Willamette valley are more or less subject to fireblight, and pear scab and benefit from a pest management strategy.

PEAR POLLINATION

In order for pears to set fruit they need to be pollinated. Pears are most commonly pollinated by honey bees. European and Asian pears benefit or require cross-pollination. Cross pollination will occur when two or more differing varieties of compatible pears are planted within the same vicinity and bloom at the same or overlapping times. European and Asian pears are cross-compatible.

ROOTSTOCK

Pears will grow to be large or small, it is all dependent on the rootstock they are grafted on to.

European Pear:

Dwarf- A dwarf pear tree will grow 8-10' tall by 5-7' wide. They are usually the earliest to mature and bear fruit, and typically produce 1-3 bushels a tree. They usually benefit from staking.

Semi Dwarf- A semi-dwarf pear tree will grow 12-15' tall 10' wide. They are slower to bear fruit then dwarf, but will produce a larger amount, typically 2-3 bushels a tree. They commonly do not require staking.

Standard- A standard pear tree will grow 18' x 13' or larger. They often take longer to bear fruit, but bear the most fruit, typically 3-6 bushels a tree. They are very sturdy and require no staking.

Asian Pear:

Dwarf- A dwarf pear tree will grow 8-10' tall by 5-7' wide. They are usually the earliest to mature and bear fruit, and typically produce 2-3 bushels a tree. They usually benefit from staking.

Semi Dwarf- A semi-dwarf pear tree will grow 12-15' tall 10' wide. They are slower to bear fruit then dwarf, but will produce a larger amount, typically 2-4 bushels a tree. They commonly do not require staking.

Standard- A standard pear tree will grow 18' x 13' or larger. They often take longer to bear fruit, but bear the most fruit, typically 4-6 bushels a tree. They are very sturdy and require no staking.

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EUROPEAN PEARS

SF=Self-Fertile

Variety	Fruit size/shape	Color	Taste/uses/etc	Recommended Pollenizer
Anjou	Large, conical	Light green, slight brown russett	Mild white flesh, good aroma, a European favorite	Partly SF; BOSC or Bartlett
Bartlett	Large, classic pear	Golden yellow, brown-red blush	<u>The Standard White flesh, good all around</u>	Partly SF; Anjou, BOSC Not Seckel
Bosc	Medium to large	Dark yellow with brown blush	Tender, aromatic, juicy, smooth textured, white flesh	Seckel, Comice, Bartlett
Comice	Large, broad-based	Greenish-yellow, red blush	Premium dessert pear, rich and juicy	BOSC, Bartlett, Anjou
Red Anjou	Large, conical, short neck	Deep Red	Sweet, mild, a European favorite	Partly SF; BOSC or Bartlett
Red Bartlett	Large, classic pear	Solid red skin White flesh	Sweeter than regular Bartlett Firm Excellent dessert fruit	Partly SF; Anjou, BOSC Not Seckel
Summer Crisp	Medium to large	Green skin with red blush	Sweet, crisp flesh Good keeper	Bartlett, Anjou, BOSC
Warren	Medium to large, long-necked	Light green, red blush	Buttery smooth, juicy, sweet	SF; Bartlett, Anjou, BOSC

***Pears in general need a pollinizer. These are only recommendations, as most combinations work just fine. Bartlett is a good universal pollinizer.**

ASIAN PEARS

Variety	Fruit size/shape	Color	Taste/uses/etc	Recommended Pollenizer
20th Century (Nijiseiki)	Medium, lopsided round	Yellow w/ green mottling	Very juicy, mild, excellent quality Best known	Bartlett, Other Asian Pears
Chojuro	Medium-large, flattened	Green w/brown russett	Crisp, mild, slightly aromatic	Bartlett, Other Asian Pears
Hosui	Medium-large	Brownish-orange	Juicy, sweet-mildly tart Great taste	Bartlett, Other Asian Pears
Shinseiki	Medium-large rounded	Yellow	Mild, sweet Retains fruit quality for a long time	Bartlett, Other Asian Pears

***Bartlett will pollinate most Asian Pear varieties. 20th Century is the heaviest bloomer, and is a good universal pollinizer.**