

Pear Trees

Originally from Eurasia, pears have been a part of American cuisine for centuries. This guide can help you choose from the **fruiting** varieties we carry here at Bristol's Garden Center, so you can enjoy fresh pears from your garden!

Getting Started

Well-drained, loamy soils with a pH between 6.0 and 6.5 are best suited for pears due to higher nutrient retention. Remediate your soil to meet these requirements if necessary.

Eliminate as many **weeds** as you can from the site before planting. Mulching with **leaf compost, sawdust and/or peat moss** will suppress weed growth and help build up organic matter.

Plant your pear trees **any time after the soil warms up after winter**. The **earlier** in the season, the faster they can establish a **strong root system**. Later in the season works as well, but **will require more frequent watering** until the first frost.

Utilize **organic 10-10-10 slow-release granular** fertilizers at the start and middle of the growing season to promote growth for the rest of the year.

Protect from disease!

Two simple preventative measures that can be taken to reduce disease incidence every year include: (1) Use **preventative** fungicides, such as **neem oil**, as the buds begin to break each Spring, and (2) Make sure there are **no junipers** planted near (within 1 mile) the pear trees. Junipers harbor many diseases which can affect pear productivity.

Light Requirements



For optimum yields, **all** pear cultivars require **6+ hours** of direct sunlight in a day.

How many plants are needed to produce fruit?



All of our **European** pear varieties **require a cross-pollinator**, meaning at least **two** different **European** pear cultivars are required to produce fruit.

Our **Asian** pear cultivars are **self-fertile**, meaning only **one Asian** pear tree is required to produce fruit. Fruit yields will **increase** with more than one **Asian** pear tree though.

European cultivars **do not cross-pollinate** with **Asian** varieties, and vice-versa. If you are interested in having both Asian and European pear fruits, get **two different** European and **two different** Asian pear trees for the most success.



Bristol's Garden Center
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Pear Cultivars

Below are pear cultivars we currently carry. The cultivars in **green** are **European**.

20th Century

Size (h x w): 10-12' x 10-12'

Cold hardiness: Zone 4

Ripe: Late-Summer

Incredibly crisp and juicy, enjoy this flavorful pear for fresh eating and canning!

Bartlett

Size (h x w): 15-20' x 15-20'

Cold hardiness: Zone 5

Ripe: Late-Summer

Bartlett pears are regarded as the “standard” pear, and is a favorite for fresh eating, canning, and preserves.

Bosc

Size (h x w): 15-20' x 15-20'

Cold hardiness: Zone 4

Ripe: Mid-Fall

A late-season fruit, enjoy the sweet and buttery crunch of a bosc pear in the Fall! Enjoy it fresh off the tree, or on salads and desserts.

d'Anjou

Size (h x w): 15-20' x 15-20'

Cold hardiness: Zone 5

Ripe: Late-Summer

Delicious fruits that can be stored for months!



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Flemish Beauty

Size (h x w): 10-15' x 10-15'

Cold hardiness: Zone 5

Ripe: Late-Summer

Disease and cold hearty, these pears are great for fresh eating or drying.

Shinseiki

Size (h x w): 15-20' x 15-20'

Cold hardiness: Zone 5

Ripe: Early-Fall

Shinseiki pear are on the drier side, and are frequently used for roasting with hot meals.

Summercrisp

Size (h x w): 15-25' x 10-15'

Cold hardiness: Zone 4

Ripe: Early-Summer

A mild-flavored, but still juicy pear, summercrisp pears are great freshly eaten.



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