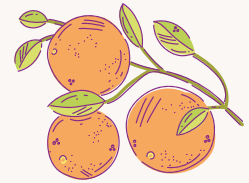


Planting, Fertilizer, Sprays

FRUIT TREE GUIDE



Planting:

- Plant during complete dormancy, early spring is best
- Stake it the first year to help it grow at first
- Use 3-4 gallons of water each week during dry periods



Fertilizer:

- Using a mulch with an hay, bark compost, or manure is great to put around the tree base.
- Fertilize in early spring with Calcium Nitrate.

Spraying

- Spray to prevent diseases, not cure them. After the damage is done, you can not undo it; you can only prevent it.

5 Stages To Use Spray:

1. Dormant, Use Fungicide/Insecticide oil

a. Horticultural oil

2. Green Tip, Use Fungicide

a. Captan or Copper Kocide

3. Pink to Full Bloom, Use Fungicide

a. Bonide Fruit Tree and Plant Guard

4. Petal Fall, Use Fungicide and Insecticide

a. Bonide Fruit Tree and Plant Guard

5. Fruit Set, Use Fungicide and Insecticide

a. Bonide Fruit Tree and Plant Guard

Dormant



Green Tip



Pink to Bloom



Petal Fall



Fruit Set



Pollination

FRUIT TREE GUIDE



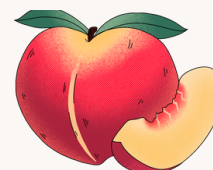
Blossoms need to be pollinated to develop into fruit and bees complete this task for us!

	<p>Apples: NOT Self-Pollinating (Need 2+)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General Rule: Plant both a Red and Yellow type of apple with similar bloom time. • Crabapple tree will work with any apple tree if planted nearby.
	<p>Pears: NOT Self-Pollinating (Need 2+)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fun Fact: Pears planted close together may be pollinated by wind if bees are not around to pollinate.
	<p>Tart Cherries: Self Pollinating (Only Need 1)</p> <p>Sweet Cherries: NOT Self-Pollinating (Need 2+)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Self Pollinating varieties only are BlackGold, Lapins, Sweetheart, Stella, WhiteGold.
	<p>Peaches: Self Pollinating (Only Need 1)</p> <p>Nectarines: Self Pollinating (Only Need 1)</p> <p>Plums: NOT Self-Pollinating (Need 2+)</p> <p>Apricots: Self Pollinating (Only Need 1)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Would benefit from having 2+

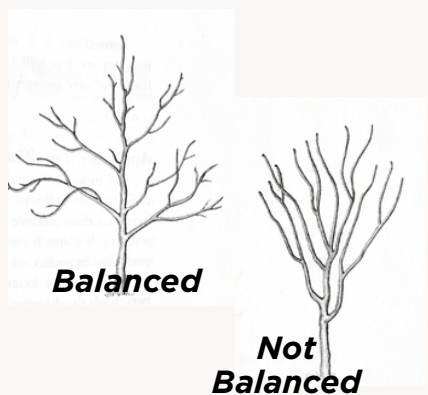
Tip: Honey bees aren't the only ones that can pollinate: Carpenter bees, Leaf-cutting, and Orchard Mason bees can also pollinate. You can drill holes in a 2x4 or other lumber and hang under an overhang near your orchard to provide them a home!

Pruning

FRUIT TREE GUIDE



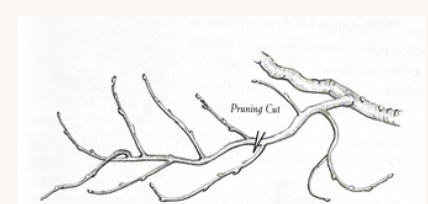
When to prune? You need temperatures above freezing but when tree is dormant. Every tree is different so if you follow these rules and use good judgment you will be effective.



Rule 1: Maintain a Leader

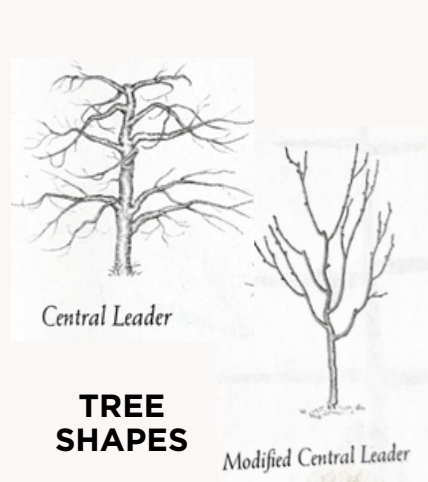
This is the largest, strongest part of the main trunk to its tip with minor branches attached. Don't let other leader branches become competitive to the main leader.

Usually in "Y's" there are two branches similar in size that are competing. Trim one of these.



Rule 2: Shorten Downward, Weeping Limbs

Cut extreme downward directed fruit producing (horizontal) branches. Example: A 4ft branch could be cut to 2ft to increase fruit size and new growth.

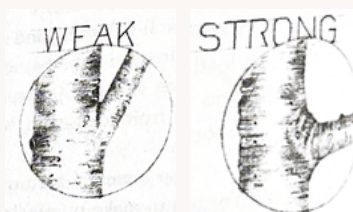


Rule 3: Apply 2/3 Rule

On mature trees, several large branches should be removed each year to allow new growth. Any branch that is thicker than 2/3 the diameter of where it is attached needs to go.

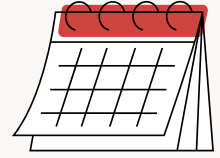
Basic Concepts:

- UP FOR *FORM*, DOWN AND OUT FOR *PRODUCTION*.
- To get more fruit, prune the unneeded "up" branches or train them down and out.
- Balanced is beautiful
 - Try to get your tree pruned to look balanced; just like how you would see in an 'elementary tree drawing.' A wider 60 degree angle is much stronger than an acute 40 degree angle.
- Take a few major limbs off instead of a bunch of small ones.
- A tree is pruned from the inside out, not the outside in.
- Every tree is different.



Monthly To Do

FRUIT TREE GUIDE



January

Make sure plants and trees are protected from deer, rabbits, voles. Enjoy your stored and canned fruit.

February

Study catalogs and place orders for new trees. Start pruning older, mature apple and pear trees.

March

Organize spray products. Prune grapes, apples, pears, and plums. Prepare for busy month ahead and make sure your sprayer works.

April

Prune peaches and cherries. Apply dormant spray early in month. Spray peaches for leaf curl. Plant new trees. Apply fertilizer and mulch. Spray during bud development and prior to bloom.

May

Spray for insect and disease control.

June

Spray twice for fungi and insect control. Pick strawberries. Apply training rubbers on branches for young trees.

July

Thin excess fruit on apple, pear, and peach trees. Pick cherries.

August

Keep areas under trees cleaned and mowed. Dispose of fallen fruit. Fertilize strawberries. Harvest early apples and peaches. Canning season begins.

September

Harvest apples, pears, plums, grapes. The most delicious month!

October

Pick late apples and pears. Store fruit, eat fresh, or process. Fall is here!

November

Winterize trees and bushes if needed. Clear away fallen fruit, leaves, branches.

December

Cover strawberry plants. Enjoy the rewards, share your blessings, and praise our Creator! Make plans for next year!