



EDIBLE  
GARDENING  
SERIES

# Asian Pears

They are also called Apple Pears because of their round shape. They are very crisp, juicy and delicious. They can grow 15 to 20 feet tall and wide, but can be pruned and maintained at 10 to 15 feet. Plant your Asian Pears 10 to 15 feet apart. Hardy to -20°F.

There are 3 types of Asian pears:

1. Round or flat fruit with green to yellow skin.
2. Round or flat fruit with bronze colored skin and a light bronze russet.
3. Pear shaped with green or russet skin.

## EXPOSURE

Full sun to part shade.

## PLANTING

We recommend **Gardner & Bloome Soil Building Compost**, **lime**, **Dr. Earth Starter Fertilizer** and **Bonide Root n Grow**. See our **Planting Guide** for further instructions.

## FERTILIZING

We recommend **Dr. Earth Fruit Tree Fertilizer** be applied at bud swell and another application after fruit set. Follow recommended rate on box.

## POLLINATION

Asian pears bloom around March. You will need 2 different types of Asian pears for cross pollination or an early blooming European pear, such as Bartlett.

## PRUNING

On young trees a good portion of the fruit is borne at or near the tips of 1 year old shoots. As they mature most of the fruit is produced on the scaffold branches. The spurs have a productive life of about 10 years.

## MULCHING

Apply 2 or 3 inches of **Gardner & Bloome Soil Building Compost** in a 3-foot diameter circle around the base of your fruit trees in the spring and again in the fall.

## IRRIGATION

In the summer it is important to water your fruit tree. The water should penetrate 6 to 8 inches below surface. Water is important for fruit production.

## HAND THINNING

Asian pears produce so many fruit that they will need to be hand thinned. Leave 4 to 6 inches between fruit. Thinning is important to obtain good fruit size and to avoid limb breakage as the fruit grow and ripen. We recommend thinning fruit within 30 days of set.

## HARVESTING

Harvesting occurs late August through late October depending on variety. Asian pears reach optimum quality when allowed to ripen on the tree. Handle carefully as Asian pears have tender skin that bruises easily.

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## CHECK LIST

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|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Asian Pear Trees                       | <input type="checkbox"/> Dr. Earth Fruit Tree Fertilizer |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Gardner & Bloome Soil Building Compost | <input type="checkbox"/> Lime                            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bonide Root n Grow                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Dormant Spray                   |