



EDIBLE
GARDENING
SERIES

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Figs

One of the easiest fruits to grow, fig trees not only produce sweet fruit, they can also add a tropical look to your landscape. They are great in containers, and they are deer resistant. They grow 15 to 20 feet tall and wide but can be kept smaller with pruning.

EXPOSURE

They prefer a warm location with a southern exposure. Figs are hardy to 0°F. Lower temperatures will cause them to freeze to the ground, but they will generally re-sprout from the roots. They like sun to shade, but sun is required for the best fruit. Plant 10 to 15 feet apart.

POLLINATION

Figs are self-fertile.

PLANTING

When planting your fig we recommend using **Gardner & Bloome Soil Building Compost**, **Dr. Earth Starter Fertilizer** and **Bonide Root n Grow**. See our **Planting Guide** for more information.

FERTILIZING

Use **Dr. Earth Fruit Tree Fertilizer** in the early spring at leaf swell and then again at the end of July.

WATERING

In the summer apply moisture so it penetrates 6 to 8 inches. This will encourage good growth and fruit production.

MULCHING

We recommend an application of 2 to 3 inches of **Soil Building Compost** in a 3-foot diameter around your fig tree in the spring and again in the fall. This will be beneficial for moisture conservation, and winter protection.

PRUNING

Prune in the late winter before the tree breaks dormancy. Remove any damaged wood, thin out weak shoots. Keep the tree open to light, air circulation and to stimulate new productive wood. A second pruning is done mid-summer pinching the new growth tips once they have extended 4 to 6 leaves. New side shoots will grow from these leaf axils, which will then produce embryonic figs in their leaf axils that will remain small enough to over winter and ripen the following summer.

HARVESTING

If you have a fig that produces two crops then their first crop (over wintering is usually "Breba") ready in August and the second crop is ready in fall. Figs are ripe and ready for eating when it drops on the stem from its own weight: Pick slightly earlier and refrigerate for better storage.

USES

Fresh eating, sauce, jam & dried.

CHECK LIST

- Figs
- Gardner & Bloome Soil Building Compost
- Dr. Earth Starter Fertilizer
- Dr. Earth Fruit Tree Fertilizer
- Bonide Root n Grow