

Two types of Pears...

European Pears

These are the most common pears and what most people think of when they think of pears. They typically have a crisp skin, with a sweet flavor and buttery texture.

Asian Pears

Often called 'Apple Pears', these pears are large and round with a crisp flesh and sweet, juicy flavor.

Growing Pears

Both types of pears can tolerate more moisture than apples and peaches, but cannot tolerate standing water.

Pears are naturally vigorous growers so limit your fertilization.

....a note about harvesting

European Pears should be picked **before** they are **ripe** and allowed to ripen off the tree before they are consumed.

Asian Pears should be **left to fully ripen on the tree**. They store quite well once picked.

Pears



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A guide to selecting
the best varieties for
your garden



Bartlett

This vigorous, productive tree bears fruit at a young age. Fruit is large, golden-yellow, with a wonderful quality. Buttery, juicy, highly flavored fruit. European pear, hardy to Zone 5.

Bosc

This vigorous grower is also a vigorous producer with an exceptional crop of large, russet-brown fruit maturing in early October. Bosc's tender flesh and smooth texture is perfect for fresh eating while also being suited for canning and preserves. European pear, hardy to Zone 5.

Clapp's Favorite

Handsome and hardy. Vigorous tree has an upright growth habit and produces large, sun-yellow pears with a red cheek. Fruit is juicy with a fine sweet texture, ideal for fresh-eating and canning. Harvest a week or two before Bartlett. Originates from Massachusetts in the late 1800s. Harvest in late August. Best pollinators: Bosc or Moonglow. Cold hardy to Zone 5.

Hosui

Snappy, tangy taste. Produces excellent-quality fruit with a slightly higher acid content than other Asian pears. Tree is moderately vigorous with a slightly spreading nature. Fruit is sweet like a pear and crisp like an apple with lots of juice. Medium to large size fruit has an attractive golden-russet skin. Best for fresh-eating but also makes great pies! Self-pollinating but would benefit from another Asian pear. Ripens late August. Cold hardy to Zone 5.

Kieffer

Grow this robust tree (blight-resistant and bears young) with large golden colored fruit and a crimson blush. It has crisp, juicy white flesh, coarse texture, and is excellent for canning and baking. Pick your pears when still firm and yellow-green in color. Then store at 60-70 degrees F to allow pears to finish ripening for the sweetest flavor. Ripens mid-October. Cold hardy to Zone 4.

Moonglow

One of the best pears for the home garden, as it is easy to grow and has great disease resistance. On top of that, it also is one of the best producers in the backyard orchard delivering basket after basket of medium to large sized, dull yellow brushed pink fruit that features one of the least gritty, white flesh of any other pear with a sweet, juicy taste that makes it ideal for fresh eating or canning. 'Moonglow' fruit matures from mid August to mid September and can be pollinated by any other non-Asian pear. European pear, hardy Zone 5.

Red Bartlett

Big, deep red pears begin to mature late August into late September. Red Bartlett Pears are sweet and juicy with a white flesh that delivers a bit of grittiness adding to the experience while not being bothersome. Very versatile and productive all while producing a pear that is both ideal for fresh eating and storing. European Pear, Hardy to Zone 4.

Shinseiki

One of the earliest of the Asian Pears to ripen. Pears are round with a golden-yellow skin and a flesh that is crisp, sweet and refreshingly juicy. A heavy bearing, vigorous and reliable producer that is great for the home orchard. Pollinate with another Asian pear. Cold hardy to Zone 5.

Twentieth Century (Nijisseki)

Moderately sized pears are very round and smooth, with a thin, yellow skin that is almost translucent. The 20th Century pear's flesh is white, crisp and fine-textured, with a sweet and mild flavor. These popular Asian pears are very juicy and have a sharp finish, which some describe as slightly astringent, with hints of vanilla and butterscotch. Pollinate with another Asian pear. Cold hardy to Zone 5.