



Planting Your New Apple Tree

The best spot for planting is an area with rich, medium to moist well-drained soil and plenty of sun. Good drainage is a must as the trees will not tolerate standing water.

Apple trees require a pollinator; so it is recommended to plant a minimum of two or pair with a crab apple. In the city, most neighborhoods have apple trees in close enough proximity to ensure success.

Dwarf trees should be planted 10-12 feet apart. Planting them where they'll get early morning sun helps reduce incidence of mildew disease, as does locating them in a spot with good air circulation.

Preparation your spot - remove weeds and grass to form a bare circle for each transplant, about 4' in diameter. Make sure you keep the roots moist -- both before and after putting them in the ground.

Soaking the roots in water for 30 minutes before planting apple trees. If the roots look dried out, extend that soaking period to about 24 hours in order to revive them.

Begin digging a hole approximately twice the diameter of the root system, and about a foot deeper. When you have dug out the proper depth of the hole, spread out the roots in the hole and check the level of the "bud union." The goal will be to have the bud union raised about 2" above ground level. The bud union is where the scion meets the rootstock as a result of grafting. Apply water as you fill the hole back in with soil, to remove air pockets

This is also the time to install a vole guard around the trunk of your trees, letting it protrude about 10" above ground level.

To help retain some of that moisture (and also keep the weeds and grass from growing back), mulch around the plant to a depth of 2"-3".



Enjoy and watch it grow!

APPLE VARIETIES WE GROW

Our University of Saskatchewan Research Program Varieties

Prairie Sensation

Large, firm, crisp and juicy. Intense aroma. Similar to the gala apple. Great for fresh eating, juicing and cooking. Stores for four months under proper condition. Ripens mid-September.

Prairie Sun

Crisp, moderately sweet and resistant to oxidation browning. Good for fresh eating and makes excellent processed products. Stores well for approximately 6 weeks. Ripens early September.

Misty Rose

Medium, firm, sweet and juicy. Colour is 90% red wash over light green. Very good eaten fresh. The fruit has good storability. Ripens early September.

Granny Annie

Medium to large. The flavour is good and sub-acid (like a good Granny Smith both sweet and sour). Excellent eating for people who like tart apples. Ripens late September.

Autumn Delight

Small to medium, very sweet, bright red. I call it “the lunch box apple.” Excellent storability, ripens late September.

Petrofka Mac

Large, sweet with bitter after taste. It is a Macintosh/Brockland seedling. It is hardy at my place and tastes like a good Macintosh. It has good storability, good juicer. Ripens mid September.

Red Mike

Small, Mac aroma, red in colour, good storage. Ripens in mid September.

Patience

Medium in size, bright red colour, good dessert apple, good cooking apple. Good selling apple over the counter. Stores well and ripens late September.

Some of the Old Favorite Varieties

Norland

Medium sweet apple, good for fresh eating and cooking. Ripens mid-August, store for two months if picked before maturity.

Parkland

Medium to large, good for fresh eating and cooking. Ripens late August. Hardy and resistant to fire blight. Good storage ability.

Battleford

A proven apple for many years. Medium to large, good fresh eating and juicing. Fair cooking. A top rated prairie apple tree for hardiness. Ripens in late August.

Goodland

Large, sweet and slightly acidic. Very good for fresh eating and cooking. Should be in sheltered location, store two to three months. Ripens late September.

Minnesota 447

Now named “Frost Bite” medium, very firm, sweet and crisp. Excellent juicer, fresh eating. Under proper condition will store for six months or more. Ripens in mid-October.

September Ruby

A mid-September red apple. The apples are good for eating, fair for cooking, and good for storage. Fruit is 6-7 centimeters in diameter.