

Apple tree

Malus domestica

QUICK FACTS

USDA ZONES

4–8

SUNLIGHT

Full Sun

HEIGHT

20–30 ft

AT A GLANCE

Rootstock selection determines tree size and site requirements more than any other decision. Buy trees on appropriate rootstocks for your space. Fire blight is the most serious threat -- choose resistant varieties and prune out infected wood immediately. Thin to one fruit per cluster in June for full-sized, high-quality fruit.

PLANTING CHECKLIST

- Match site to sun requirements above before buying
- Test soil drainage — dig a 12" hole, fill with water, time it (should drain in 1–2 hrs)
- Dig hole 2x wider than rootball, same depth
- Backfill with native soil — do NOT amend the planting hole
- Water deeply at planting and weekly for first 3 weeks
- Mulch 2" deep, keep mulch 2" away from trunk/stems

FULL GUIDE WITH SOURCES

<https://outdoorplantcare.com/plants/apple-tree-care/>

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