

American vs Chinese chestnut tree

Castanea mollissima

QUICK FACTS

USDA ZONES

4–9

SUNLIGHT

Full Sun

HEIGHT

60–100 ft

AT A GLANCE

Plant Chinese chestnut or blight-resistant hybrid cultivars developed by the American Chestnut Foundation. Chinese chestnuts are productive, relatively easy to manage, and produce high-quality nuts. They require at least two different genotypes for pollination. Japanese beetle defoliation is a significant challenge in zones 5-7.

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/chestnut-tree-care/>