



POMEGRANATE CARE

Pomegranates are easy to grow. They do not need much water or fertilizer. Pomegranates are naturally adapted to regions with cool winters and hot summers, perfect for California gardens! Pomegranates can be kept to 6' tall with regular pruning in mid-summer. Fruit can be stored in cool, dry place for up to 3 months. Fruit is eaten fresh, used in salads, salsas and preserves. High in antioxidants and vitamin C.

Planting

Plant pomegranates in the warmest and sunniest spot available. With full sun exposure the best fruit will be produced, but trees will also tolerate part shade. Well drained garden soil is preferable, but pomegranate trees will also thrive in gravel, acidic loam or calcareous soils.

Watering

New plantings need sufficient water to thrive and get established. Thereafter established pomegranates only need watering about once every 2-3 weeks during the dry season. Soils with ample organic matter have better water holding capacity.

Pruning

When it reaches 2 feet tall the young tree should be cut back to the point where only 4 or 5 shoots are allowed to develop, taking care to maintain a balanced form. Remove suckers and unwanted shoots as they appear. If selected branches are about a foot from the ground the resulting tree will have a short and well defined trunk. Fruits are produced on new growth tips. If trees' branches are cut back annually for the first three years, selected branches will grow many side shoots, thus producing a tree with maximum fruit productivity and appealing form. After initial pruning and shaping in the first three years only occasional suckering and dead branch removal will be necessary.

Fertilizing

Pomegranates benefit from rich fertile soils, especially during the first three seasons of growth and establishment. In the West pomegranate groves typically receive nitrogen based fertilizer applications in spring, the first two seasons of establishment. Thereafter an annual application of compost or well rotted manure is helpful.

POMEGRANATE VARIETIES

ANGEL RED (PAT.) POMEGRANATE Bright red, large pomegranate produced nearly a month ahead of Wonderful. Yields high volumes of anti-oxidant juice and lower than normal waste pulp. Ripens late August to early September in the Central Valley of California. 150 hours. Self-fruitful.

AMBROSIA POMEGRANATE Fantastically huge fruits: up to three times the size of Wonderful. Pale pink skin, purple sweet-tart juice, similar to Wonderful. Long-lived, any soil. Inland or coastal climate. 150 hours. Self-fruitful.

EVERSWEET POMEGRANATE Very sweet, virtually seedless fruit. (Even immature fruits are sweet.) Red skin, clear (non-staining) juice. Harvest late summer through fall. Coast or inland. 8-10 ft. arching shrub, or train as tree or espalier. Large, showy, orange-red flowers. 150 hours. Self-fruitful. Pat. No. 5418

GARNET SASH POMEGRANATE Vigorous tree sets big crops of large, dark red fruit with deep-red, partially edible sweet-tart seeds. Can be grown as a shrub or tree and kept any height by summer pruning. Requires 150-200 chill hours. Self-fruitful.

KASHMIR BLEND POMEGRANATE Medium size pomegranate with light pink-red exterior. Ruby red seeds have intense flavor with no overbearing acidic taste. Tree has a slightly spreading growth habit and can also be grown as a shrub. Keep any height with summer pruning. Requires 150-200 chill hours. Self-fruitful.

PINK SATIN POMEGRANATE Medium to large size, bright red fruit with small, light-pink edible seeds. Light-colored juice is non-staining, with a sweet, fruit-punch flavor. Tree is vigorous and can also be grown as a shrub. Chill requirement 150-200 hours. Self-fruitful.

RED SILK POMEGRANATE Medium to large size fruit with a pinkish-red exterior. Firm yet edible seeds have a sweet berry flavor and a great

acid/sugar balance. Naturally semi-dwarf tree has a slightly-spreading grown habit and sets large crops. Grow as a tree or shrub and keep any height by summer pruning. 150-200 hours Self fruitful.

SWEET POMEGRANATE Very sweet, virtually seedless fruit. (Even immature fruits are sweet.) Red skin, clear (non- staining) juice. Harvest late summer through fall. Coast or inland. 8-10 ft. arching shrub, or train as tree or espalier. Large, showy, orange-red flowers. 150 hours. Self-fruitful.

SHARP VELVET POMEGRANATE Large sized pomegranate with a very appealing, unique refreshing flavor. Fruit has a dark red exterior and dark seeds, the color of crushed-red velvet. Upright growing tree sets huge crops of highly ornamental fruit and can be kept any height with summer pruning. Requires 150-200 chill hours. Self-fruitful.

WONDERFUL POMEGRANATE

Popular variety with large, purple-red fruit with delicious, tangy flavor. Best quality in hot inland climate. Gaudy red-orange bloom, ornamental foliage. Long-lived, any soil. 150 hours. Self-fruitful.