



RASPBERRY

Planting

Raspberries are tall vining plants that generally need support. They may be grown in rows or clustered around a central stake.

Good-drainage is **EXTREMELY** important for raspberries. **Raspberries need EXCELLENT drainage.** In the Willamette valley the best way to ensure healthy raspberries is to put them in a raised bed. Raspberries are prone to disease if they are kept too moist.

Plant raspberries one foot deep, two feet apart and with six feet in between rows. Cut them to 2 inches tall after planting, this allows for root development and vigorous shoot development.

Feeding and Watering

Fertilize raspberries in mid-spring and again right after harvest. Use a well-balanced fertilizer, a vegetable or all-purpose fertilizer works best; follow package instructions. Because of their shallow root systems, raspberries need consistent to frequent watering. Water thoroughly, evenly covering the planting area enough to soak down into the soil, every 2-3 times per week in the summer.

Pruning

There are three types of raspberries, and they require different pruning styles. Most raspberries require support. Posts six feet apart with horizontal wires at 2 and 4 ft generally work best.

Blackcaps: Prune after harvest. Remove old stems (brittle, or pale tan colored) at ground level. Thin the remaining canes lightly – blackcaps do not sucker like other raspberries. Prune a few inches off the tips of the remaining canes.

Everbearing: Everbearing raspberries require pruning in two cycles. In the FALL prune off the fruiting portion of the cane (roughly one foot). In the EARLY SUMMER after your first harvest, prune the fruiting cane to the ground. While you're pruning thin the suckers to roughly six inches apart. This is also a good time to prune your raspberries to keep them within the boundaries of your bed.

Spring Bearing: Remove all fruit bearing canes right after harvest to ground level. Thin canes to about six inches apart and trim suckers to keep them within boundaries. In the FALL cut a few inches off the tips that are remaining.

Pest and Disease Control

Raspberries are prone to several types of fungal disease. The key to preventing fungal disease is to make sure that your raspberries are in soil with *excellent* drainage. Pruning raspberries is another way to prevent disease.





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Dormant sprays of lime sulfur and copper may offer additional protection, this is generally done in late winter or early spring. Raspberries are subject to a wide range of relatively minor pests. Aphids, leaf eating and leaf rolling caterpillars, mites, and stink bugs can be controlled with organic insecticides such as neem when needed. Raspberries also have some unique pests. Various borers may attack and damage or even destroy canes. Good pruning practices reduce the risks, and careful inspection of the canes at pruning can reveal these pest problems, which are best treated by removal and destruction of the infested canes.

RASPBERRY VARIETIES

Blackcaps and purple raspberries feature rich distinct flavors. Purples and blackcaps are also great for flavorful jams and delicious juice. Everbearing are similar to the red raspberries that one would get in the store. Great for fresh eating and as they bear throughout the growing season they're great for snacking. Spring crop varieties are best for those who want classic raspberry flavor for preserves and freezing as the bulk of production will all come at one time.

Blackcaps & Purples

Cumberland - The best raspberry for jams and jellies. Medium blue-black berries have a strong, rich sweet flavor. Strong vigorous canes fruits in July.

Munger - Great sweet blackcap that's never seedy. More disease resistant than other raspberries, however they generally don't freeze well.

Royalty - Excellent purple raspberry – grown like a blackcap. They can be harvested at red for a sweet tart raspberry, or wait until they're purple for a stronger sweeter berry. Excellent storage. Good insect resistance.

Jewel Black - Large very flavorful shiny black raspberry produces large crop in summer. Great for canning, jams and preserves.

Everbearing

Amity - Large firm dark red berries. Berries have notable strong flavor and excellent storage life. Great flavor fresh or frozen. Produces well in summer and fall.

Anne – The best yellow raspberry, good productivity of large and delicious fruit.

Autumn Bliss - New top-rated variety is adaptable to a wide range of growing conditions. Bright red berries have excellent flavor. Vigorous and productive. Produces best in fall.

Caroline – Large firm berries with a unique flavor. Disease resistant and very productive. Ripens Late June to Early July.

Fall Gold - Large golden berries are a little soft, but sweet. Great for fresh snacking and processing. Everbearing variety, with best production August through fall.

Heritage - Superior variety. Large dark red berries are firm and sweet. Great for fresh eating or canning. Sturdy canes can be grown without supports. Somewhat resistant to anthracnose and mildew. Small summer crop with superior fall crop.

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Summit - Large bright red berries with mild sweet flavor. Great for fresh eating, and good storage life. Some resistance to root rot. Good production summer and fall.

Raspberry Shortcake – Dwarf plants grow only 2 to 3 ft tall and wide and are thornless. Produces deliciously sweet berries all summer. Great for container planting.

Vintage – A newer selection, noted for very large and very sweet berries.

Spring Crop

Canby – Completely thornless raspberry produces large red berries with a sweet, robust flavor. June-bearing.

Cascade Delight - Single crop red raspberry with intense traditional raspberry flavor. Produces a heavy crop in July and August that's best for fresh eating. Even though Cascade Delight shows outstanding resistance to root rot, it still prefers well drained soil.

Chilcoten – Very large bright red berry. Excellent flavor and yield. Very cold hardy and disease resistant. Ripens in July.

Meeker - Large dark red fruit with high sugar content and good flavor. Tolerates poor soils. Vigorous and productive with a long season. Ripens Late June to Early July.

Tulameen – Large red berries, high yields with a long harvest season. Ripens in July.

Willamette - Best known Spring Crop raspberry. Medium to large dark red berries are mild and sweet. Vigorous and productive. Produces late June to mid-July.

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