



# Fact Sheet

<b>Common name</b>	Pear, European and Japanese (nashi)		
<b>Botanical name</b>	<i>Pyrus communis</i> , <i>Pyrus pyrifolia</i>		
<b>Summary:</b>			
Deciduous long lived large tree, ornamental glossy green foliage and extremely hardy. Native to Asia and eastern Europe where cultivation has been recorded at least far back as 1000 BC with Homer declaring the pear to be 'the fruit of the gods'. The soft buttery flesh of the modern European pear we eat today descends from the orchardists of 18 <sup>th</sup> century France and Belgium. Pears are vigorous and easy to train, making excellent espalier, open vase, pyramidal or any tree shape you desire.			
<b>Likes</b>		<b>Doesn't like</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To have vigorous vertical growth removed or tied down to promote fruiting spur development</li> <li>Warm summers</li> <li>To be grafted onto other pear trees.</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bruising</li> <li>Being thirsty in spring and summer</li> </ul>	
<b>Flowers in</b>	Early to middle spring	<b>Flowers in</b>	February to May
<b>Care</b>			
Planting	Bare Rooted in Winter		
Pollination/ self-fertile, requires another tree	'Williams' pear is self-fertile but most other varieties require a compatible cultivar to cross-pollinate. The modern nashi will self-pollinate but performs better in the presence of another.		
Pruning	Winter and Summer		
Disease and pest management	Codling Moth. Pear and Cherry Slug, Possums and a lesser extent birds.		
Moisture, how much and when	Flowering periods and during Fruiting,		
Feeding	Spring and autumn		
Harvesting	European pears should be picked mature but still hard. They store well in cool temperature. Nashi pears should be picked when ripe.		

What to do when		 Prune	 Harvest	 Feed	 Pest / Disease
 Summer	Dec				•
	Jan	•	•		
	Feb	•	•	•	
 Autumn	March	•		•	
	April	•		•	
	May				
 Winter	Jun	•			
	Jul	•			
	Aug	•			
 Spring	Sep	•		•	
	Oct			•	•
	Nov			•	•

*This is a rough guide only. Individual fruit tree care depends on the variety, the conditions in your garden and your personal preferences!*



Image credit: [Ellie Enking](#)

