

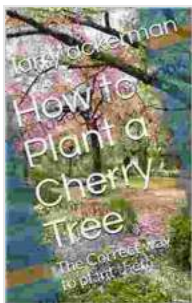
How to Plant and Grow Cherry Trees in Your Backyard

Cherry trees are a beautiful and rewarding addition to any backyard. They provide delicious fruit, beautiful blossoms, and can even be used as shade trees. If you're thinking about planting a cherry tree, this guide will provide you with all the information you need to get started.

The first step in planting a cherry tree is choosing the right variety. There are many different varieties of cherry trees available, each with its own unique characteristics. Some of the most popular varieties include:

- **Bing:** A large, sweet cherry with a dark red skin.
- **Montmorency:** A tart cherry that is often used for pies and other desserts.
- **Stella:** A sweet cherry that is known for its early ripening.
- **Yoshino:** A flowering cherry tree that produces beautiful pink blossoms in the spring.

When choosing a variety, it's important to consider your climate, soil conditions, and personal preferences.



How to Plant a Cherry Tree: The Correct way to plant them

by Linda Bartash-Dawley

★★★★★ 5 out of 5

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Once you've chosen a variety, it's time to plant your cherry tree. The best time to plant a cherry tree is in the spring or fall, when the weather is cool and the ground is moist.

To plant your cherry tree, follow these steps:

1. Dig a hole that is twice as wide as the root ball of your tree and just as deep.
2. Place your tree in the hole and backfill with soil, tamping down gently to remove any air pockets.
3. Water your tree deeply and regularly, especially during the first growing season.
4. Mulch around your tree with organic matter, such as wood chips or compost, to help retain moisture and suppress weeds.

Once your cherry tree is planted, it's important to care for it properly to ensure that it grows and produces fruit. Here are some tips for caring for your cherry tree:

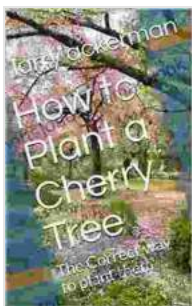
- **Watering:** Cherry trees need about 1 inch of water per week during the growing season. Water your tree deeply and regularly, especially during hot, dry weather.

- **Fertilizing:** Cherry trees should be fertilized once a year in the spring with a balanced fertilizer.
- **Pruning:** Cherry trees should be pruned in the late winter or early spring to remove dead or diseased wood and to encourage fruit production.
- **Pest and disease control:** Cherry trees are susceptible to a number of pests and diseases, including aphids, cherry fruit flies, and powdery mildew. Monitor your tree for signs of pests and diseases and treat accordingly.

Cherry trees typically begin to bear fruit in their third or fourth year. When the cherries are ripe, they will be plump and slightly soft to the touch. To harvest cherries, simply pick them off the tree by hand.

Cherries can be eaten fresh, canned, or frozen. They can also be used to make pies, jams, and other desserts.

Planting and growing cherry trees in your backyard is a rewarding experience. By following the tips in this guide, you can enjoy delicious fruit and beautiful blossoms for years to come.



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