

Currants

Ribes spp. (red, black, white) · Gooseberry family

DIFFICULTY Easy
TYPE Perennial shrub
MATURITY 2–3 years to full production



SUN
Full–part sun



WATER
Regular



SOIL PH
6.0–6.8



SPACING
1–1.5m



DEPTH
as per pot,
slightly deep

01 A cool-climate favourite

Currants generally prefer cooler conditions than many other berries and appreciate some afternoon shade in warmer parts of Australia.

02 Planting

METHOD	Plant bare-root or potted bushes slightly deeper than they sat in the pot.
SOIL	Rich, well-drained, high organic matter.
TIMING	Plant in winter while dormant.

Planting timing varies significantly by Australian climate zone. Set your zone above (or use the Find My Climate Zone tool) for guidance tailored to your own area.

04 Problems

- **Currant blister aphid** — puckered leaves; largely cosmetic, tolerate or hose off.
- **Birds** — net thoroughly.
- **Powdery mildew** — improve airflow through pruning.
- **Poor fruiting in hot climates** — provide afternoon shade in warmer zones.

06 Companions & rotation

PLANT NEARBY

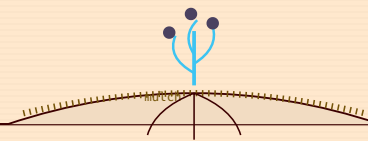
Comfrey

AVOID NEARBY

Very hot, exposed positions

ROTATION NOTE

Not applicable — long-lived perennial shrub.



mulched bed, shallow roots

03 Growing care

- Water regularly, especially through fruit development.
- Mulch to retain moisture.
- Prune in winter to an open shape, removing old unproductive wood.
- Net as fruit ripens — birds take these readily.

05 Harvest & storage

SIGNS	Full colour, whole trusses ripen together.
METHOD	Pick whole strings (strigs) rather than individual berries.
CURING	None needed.
STORAGE	Fridge, about a week; freezes well.
PRESERVING	See Freezing Produce (freezing a berry glut) or Canning & Bottling (jams and preserves) for ways to keep a harvest surplus.