

# Pecan

*Carya illinoensis* · Walnut family

**DIFFICULTY** Moderate  
**TYPE** Deciduous perennial tree  
**MATURITY** 5–8 years to first useful crop



SUN  
Full sun



WATER  
Regular, deep —  
appreciates  
consistent  
moisture



SOIL PH  
6.0–7.0



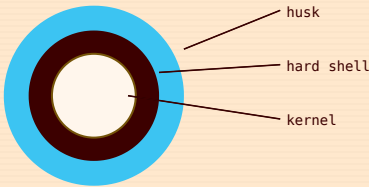
SPACING  
10–15m



DEPTH  
as per pot

## 01 A large, long-term investment

Pecans grow into substantial, long-lived trees and take longer than most nuts to bear — a multi-generational planting, but a productive one once mature.



## 02 Planting

|        |                                                                                                   |
|--------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| METHOD | Plant from a potted or grafted tree — grafted trees bear sooner and more reliably than seedlings. |
| SOIL   | Deep, well-drained, fertile.                                                                      |
| 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

- **Pecan scab** — dark spotting in humid climates; choose resistant varieties for humid regions.
- **Aphids** — cluster on new growth; encourage predators.
- **Poor nut fill** — inconsistent watering through summer; keep moisture steady.
- **Slow to bear** — patience needed; a long-term planting.

## 03 Growing care

- Give it plenty of room — pecans grow very large.
- Water deeply and consistently, especially through nut fill.
- Plant more than one variety for best pollination.
- Prune minimally, mainly to remove damaged wood.

## 05 Harvest & storage

|            |                                                                                                        |
|------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| SIGNS      | Husks split and nuts drop naturally, typically autumn.                                                 |
| METHOD     | Collect fallen nuts regularly from the ground.                                                         |
| CURING     | Dry nuts in shell 1–2 weeks in a warm, airy spot.                                                      |
| STORAGE    | Shelled kernels keep months airtight in a cool spot, longer frozen.                                    |
| PRESERVING | See <a href="#">Dehydrating</a> (curing nuts fully before storage) for ways to keep a harvest surplus. |

## 06 Companions & rotation

|                                   |                     |                                                  |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------------------------------|
| PLANT NEARBY                      | AVOID NEARBY        | ROTATION NOTE                                    |
| Nothing needing full sun close by | Small garden spaces | Not applicable — very long-lived perennial tree. |