

Walnut

Juglans regia · Walnut family

DIFFICULTY Moderate
TYPE Deciduous perennial tree
MATURITY 4–7 years to first useful crop



SUN
Full sun



WATER
Regular while
establishing,
moderate once
mature



SOIL PH
6.0–7.0



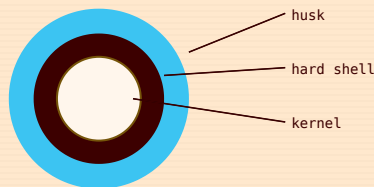
SPACING
10–15m



DEPTH
as per pot

01 Nut anatomy

Walnuts grow inside a green husk that splits and blackens as it ripens, revealing the familiar hard-shelled nut — and mature trees need serious space, so plan for a large mature canopy.



02 Planting

METHOD	Plant from a potted or bare-root tree; taproot dislikes disturbance so plant young.
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.

03 Growing care

- Give it room — walnuts grow into very large trees.
- Water regularly while establishing.
- Avoid planting other crops too close — walnut roots produce a natural chemical that suppresses some nearby plants.
- Prune minimally once established; mainly to remove damaged wood.

04 Problems

- **Walnut blight** — dark blotches on husks and leaves in wet weather; improve airflow.
- **Codling moth** — can affect developing nuts; monitor.
- **Allelopathy affecting nearby plants** — avoid planting sensitive species (tomato, apple) within the drip line.
- **Slow to bear** — patience is needed; grafted trees fruit sooner than seedlings.

05 Harvest & storage

SIGNS	Husks split and begin to blacken, typically autumn.
METHOD	Collect fallen nuts promptly, or knock from the tree once husks split.
CURING	Remove husks, then dry nuts in shell 2–3 weeks in a warm, airy spot.
STORAGE	Shelled kernels keep months airtight in a cool spot, longer frozen.
PRESERVING	See Dehydrating (curing nuts fully before storage) for ways to keep a harvest surplus.

06 Companions & rotation

PLANT NEARBY	AVOID NEARBY	ROTATION NOTE
Nothing sensitive within the drip line	Tomato Apple Potato (allelopathic effect)	Not applicable — very long-lived perennial tree.