

Quince

Cydonia oblonga · Rose family

DIFFICULTY Easy

TYPE Deciduous perennial tree

MATURITY 3–5 years to first fruit



SUN
Full sun



WATER
Regular



SOIL PH
6.0–7.0



SPACING
4–5m



DEPTH
graft union
above soil

01 Tough and low-maintenance

Quince is one of the hardiest and most trouble-free fruit trees for a [homestead](#) — tolerant of a wide range of conditions, with far fewer pest and disease issues than most stone fruit.

02 Planting

METHOD	Plant bare-rooted while dormant.
SOIL	Tolerant of a wide range, even heavier clay.
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

- **Fireblight** — occasional; prune out affected wood well below the damage.
- **Codling moth** — as with apples and pears; use traps if it's an issue.
- **Leaf spot** — generally minor and cosmetic.
- **Few other issues** — a notably trouble-free tree.

06 Companions & rotation

PLANT NEARBY

Comfrey

AVOID NEARBY

Walnut (allelopathic)

ROTATION NOTE

Not applicable — long-lived perennial tree.



loose stake, first year

03 Growing care

- Minimal care once established — one of the easier fruit trees.
- Prune lightly in winter to maintain shape.
- Water regularly while young.
- Thin fruit only if very heavily set.

05 Harvest & storage

SIGNS	Fruit turns golden yellow and fragrant; always eaten cooked, never raw.
METHOD	Twist gently from the stem.
CURING	None needed.
STORAGE	Cool, dark spot; keeps for weeks, fragrance intensifies in storage.
PRESERVING	See Canning & Bottling (bottling a fruit glut) or Dehydrating (dried fruit) for ways to keep a harvest surplus.