

Kiwifruit

Actinidia deliciosa · Kiwifruit family

DIFFICULTY Moderate
TYPE Deciduous perennial vine
MATURITY 3–4 years to first fruit



SUN
Full sun



WATER
Regular, deep



SOIL PH
6.0–6.5



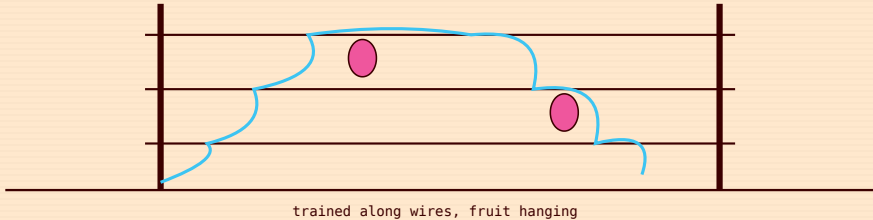
SPACING
4–5m on a strong
pergola/trellis



DEPTH
as per pot

01 Needs male and female vines

Most kiwifruit varieties are either male or female, and you need at least one of each nearby for fruit — a single vine on its own generally won't produce.



trained along wires, fruit hanging

02 Planting

METHOD	Plant against a strong, permanent pergola-style structure — vines get heavy.
SOIL	Rich, well-drained, high organic matter.
TIMING	Plant in winter while dormant, or from a potted vine in spring.

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

- Plant both a male and female vine (one male can pollinate several females).
- Water deeply and regularly, especially in summer.
- Prune hard each winter — vines are extremely vigorous.
- Provide a strong permanent structure — mature vines are heavy.

04 Problems

- No fruit produced** — usually a missing pollinator vine; check male/female balance.
- Wind damage to young growth** — shelter young vines.
- Fruit fly** — less commonly affected than other fruit.
- Root rot** — from poor drainage; ensure it's not sitting wet.

05 Harvest & storage

SIGNS	Fruit is full size, seeds inside have turned black.
METHOD	Cut or twist from the vine; ripens further off the plant.
CURING	Ripen at room temperature, faster next to a banana.
STORAGE	Cool storage keeps for months; ripen small batches as needed.
PRESERVING	See Dehydrating (drying grapes and similar fruit) or Canning & Bottling (jams and preserves) for ways to keep a harvest surplus.

06 Companions & rotation

PLANT NEARBY	AVOID NEARBY	ROTATION NOTE
Comfrey	Weak structures	Not applicable — long-lived perennial vine.