

ALMONDS

Almonds in the Pacific Northwest! Yes, we can grow almonds with a little protection and good drainage. Almonds are very early bloomers, and therefore should not be planted in frost pockets. The nuts require a warm dry summer to mature. Some varieties require a second variety for cross pollination. They begin to bear in three years. The trees mature at about 15-20' tall and wide, but can be pruned to 10'.

Good drainage is essential for success. Once the trees are established they are drought tolerant. However, yields are better with regular watering. If annual growth is less than 8" a year, fertilize with a high nitrogen fertilizer in spring. Trees should be pruned to a vase shape. Fruiting spurs remain productive for about five years.

Harvest almonds in fall after hulls have cracked open and partially dried. Shaking the tree will help with harvest. After harvest, remove the hulls and allow the nuts to dry for a few days. Nuts should be stored in a cool, dry, well-ventilated area.

VARIETY	DESCRIPTION
ALL-IN-ONE	Self-fertile and good pollinator. Soft-shelled, sweet Nonpareil-type nuts. Heavy bearer and late bloomer. Tree grows 15-20' tall. Number one almond for home orchards. Zones 6-9
GARDEN PRINCE	Self-fertile. An attractive genetic dwarf tree, growing to 8-12' tall with showy, light pink blossoms in March. Large clusters of excellent quality, medium sized soft-shelled nuts. Ripens from late August to late September. May need winter protection.