

Currants

Ribes spp. (red, black, white) · Gooseberry family

DIFFICULTY Easy

TYPE Perennial shrub

MATURITY 2–3 years to full production



SUN
Full–part sun



WATER
Regular



SOIL PH
6.0–6.8



SPACING
1–1.5m



DEPTH
as per pot,
slightly deep

01 A cool-climate favourite

Currants generally prefer cooler conditions than many other berries and appreciate some afternoon shade in warmer parts of Australia.

02 Planting

METHOD	Plant bare-root or potted bushes slightly deeper than they sat in the pot.
SOIL	Rich, well-drained, high organic matter.
TIMING	Plant in winter while dormant.

04 Problems

- **Currant blister aphid** — puckered leaves; largely cosmetic, tolerate or hose off.
- **Birds** — net thoroughly.
- **Powdery mildew** — improve airflow through pruning.
- **Poor fruiting in hot climates** — provide afternoon shade in warmer zones.

06 Companions & rotation

PLANT NEARBY

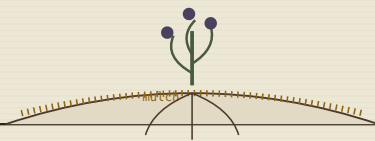
Comfrey

AVOID NEARBY

Very hot, exposed positions

ROTATION NOTE

Not applicable — long-lived perennial shrub.



mulched bed, shallow roots

03 Growing care

- Water regularly, especially through fruit development.
- Mulch to retain moisture.
- Prune in winter to an open shape, removing old unproductive wood.
- Net as fruit ripens — birds take these readily.

05 Harvest & storage

SIGNS	Full colour, whole trusses ripen together.
METHOD	Pick whole strings (strigs) rather than individual berries.
CURING	None needed.
STORAGE	Fridge, about a week; freezes well.