

Cumquat

Citrus japonica · Rue family

DIFFICULTY Easy
TYPE Evergreen perennial shrub/small tree
MATURITY 2 years to first fruit



SUN
Full sun



WATER
Regular, deep



SOIL PH
5.5–6.5



SPACING
2–3m or pot



DEPTH
graft union
above soil

01 Compact and pot-friendly

The smallest of the common citrus, cumquat stays naturally compact and does very well in a large pot — a good option if garden space is limited.



loose stake, first year

02 Planting

METHOD	Plant with the graft union above soil level, in the ground or a large pot.
SOIL	Well-drained, slightly acidic.
TIMING	Plant in spring.

04 Problems

- **Citrus leaf miner** — prune affected tips.
- **Gall wasp** — prune out before spring.
- **Sooty mould** — treat the underlying pest.
- **Fruit drop** — irregular watering, more common in pots.

03 Growing care

- Water deeply and regularly, more often if potted.
- Feed with a citrus fertiliser three times a year.
- Mulch around the drip line.
- Prune lightly to shape after harvest.

05 Harvest & storage

SIGNS	Full orange colour, fruit is eaten whole, skin and all.
METHOD	Cut or twist from the stem.
CURING	None needed.
STORAGE	Room temperature about a week, or refrigerated longer.

06 Companions & rotation

PLANT NEARBY	AVOID NEARBY	ROTATION NOTE
Comfrey Marigold	Close tree planting	Not applicable — perennial shrub/tree.