

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.



loose stake, first year

02 Planting

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

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	AVOID NEARBY	ROTATION NOTE
Comfrey	Walnut (allelopathic)	Not applicable — long-lived perennial tree.

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.