

Jujube Tree Care Guide (*Ziziphus jujuba*)

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Adaptable, Hardy, and Sweet - A Perfect Desert Fruit Tree

Quick Facts

- Sunlight: Full sun (8+ hrs/day)
- Hardiness Zones: 6-10
- Drought Tolerant: Extremely
- Fruit Bearing: 2-4 years from planting
- Size: 10-20 ft in ground, 6-10 ft in pots

In-Ground Planting

- Soil: Tolerates poor, alkaline, or sandy soil. Ensure good drainage.
- Watering: Deep water every 2-3 weeks once established. First-year trees may need weekly watering in summer.
- Spacing: Minimum 15-20 feet between trees.
- Fertilizing: Not heavy feeders. Use compost or light-balanced fertilizer in spring.
- Pruning: Winter prune for shape and airflow. Remove suckers and water sprouts.

Container Growing

- Pot Size: Minimum 15-gallon pot with excellent drainage.
- Soil Mix: Sandy loam or cactus mix blended with compost.
- Watering: Let soil dry between deep waterings. 1-2 times/week during active growth.
- Winter: Fully cold-hardy in most climates. Protect small potted trees in hard frost.
- Fertilizing: Balanced slow-release fertilizer in early spring.
- Repotting: Every 3-4 years to refresh soil and check root health.

Pro Tips

- Jujubes need heat to sweeten properly; ideal for high desert regions.
- Most varieties are self-fruitful but planting two can boost yields.
- Flowers attract pollinators. Fruit resembles dates when dried.
- Minimal pest and disease issues make them an easy-care option.