



# Types of Pruning

## Pruning tips

- Always use sharp secateurs and a pruning saw.
- Blunt tools can lead to damage to the branches and strains.
- Start by removing dead or damaged branches.

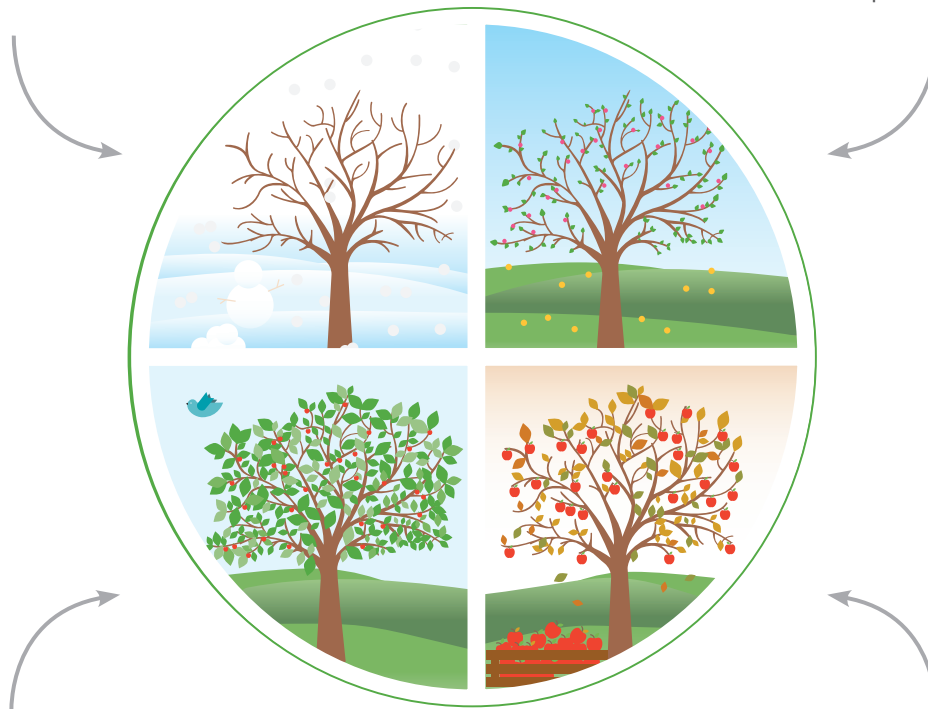
## Seasonal pruning

### Winter

- Apples and pears are mostly pruned in the winter to encourage vigorous growth.
- Winter pruning encourages the growth of new shoots, more flowers and therefore more fruits.
- Winter pruning makes it easier to see the overall shape and structure of the tree as the leaves will have fallen, making it easier to prune.

### Spring

- Mainly used for stone fruit trees or if a fruit tree has become too big.
- Keeps trees small as it doesn't trigger lots of new growth.
- It is also a good chance to remove dead or diseased wood.
- You can avoid cutting the branches with fruits on to maximise production.



### Summer

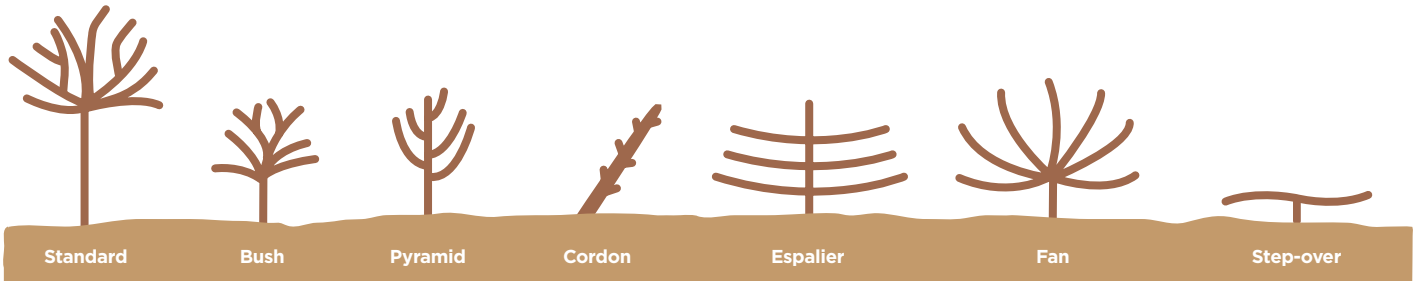
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### Autumn

- It is best to avoid pruning during the autumn as it can stimulate new growth when the tree is meant to be becoming dormant.



## Different tree shapes pruning can achieve



### Standard

Standard are large, tall tree shapes with an open centred crown. Trunks of 2 meters or more and a total height of 8 meters. The large size allows for a high fruit yield however due to the size are less accessible for fruit picking and are harder to maintain.

### Bush

The bush shape is similar to the standard but on short trunk of less than 1 metre. Total height is between 2 to 3.5 metres, they produce a high yield of fruit at a young age and are easy to maintain.

### Pyramid

The pyramid is similar to the bush form, however the main shoot in the centre is allowed to maintain dominance creating a pyramid shape.

### Cordon

Single-stemmed trees planted at an angle (usually 45°), with fruiting spurs encouraged to form along the stem. Any side branches are removed by pruning. Cordons take up less space so more varieties (i.e. different types of fruit trees) or more trees can be grown in a given space. They also crop earlier than most other forms, but yields are smaller per tree.

### Espalier

A central vertical trunk with three or four horizontal branches on each side. Useful if there are walls bordering an orchard or for small spaces. Specialist pruning will be required to maintain the shape.

### Fan

A short central trunk with several radiating branches growing from the crown. Most suited to cherries grown up a wall.

### Step-over espalier

Espaliers with just one tier of horizontal branches, 30 cm from the ground. These make a novel and productive border for a vegetable plot or for an orchard area with larger trees. Fruit production is dictated by the size of the plant.

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