



# Orchard management cycle



## Select variety of scion

This is the fruiting section taken from the fruit variety you wish to grow. Choose the fruit you like to eat the most!



## Select a rootstock

This is the root system that a scion can grow on. A rootstock can affect the properties of a tree e.g. how tall it will grow.



## Grafting

A scion and rootstock can be joined together through grafting, allowing them to grow as one plant.



## Orchard design

When designing an orchard, space, soil and light availability must be considered to reduce competition between trees.





### **Preparing the ground**

For each tree, dig a hole a little larger than the rootstock, removing any large rocks.



### **Plant the fruit trees**

Hold the tree in the hole and carefully infill the soil. The grafting joint should remain above ground. Once planted a mulch ring can be added.



### **Protect the trees**

A stake can help protect the tree from high winds, while a guard can be added to protect the young bark from predators e.g. rabbits.



### **Pruning**

Pruning helps maintain the shape and size of the tree and ensures light reaches the whole tree.



### **Thinning the fruit**

If your tree has a heavy crop it is a good idea to thin the fruit. This helps the remaining fruit ripen and reduces the chance of branches breaking.



### **Harvesting and collecting the fruit**

Once ripe the fruit can be collected, washed and consumed.



### **Remove fallen rotten fruit**

An important management step is to remove the fallen fruit from the ground around the tree to reduce the risk of disease.