



Columnar Pears - Planting, Care, and Training

Mini-brochure - Landscape, print-friendly (ASCII-only)

- Full sun, good airflow; avoid frost pockets and waterlogged sites.
- Rootstock and vigor: choose compact or dwarfing stock suitable for columnar habit.
- Pollination: many pears need a compatible partner with overlapping bloom; some are partially self-fertile but crop better with a pollinator.
- Space: rows 1.5 to 2.0 m; in-row spacing 0.6 to 1.0 m for columns, depending on vigor.
- Container option: use 40 to 60 L container with drainage; stake the central leader.

Planting - spacing and steps

Spacing	0.6 to 1.0 m between trees; rows 1.5 to 2.0 m. Keep a narrow hedgerow about 50 to 60 cm wide.
Hole & depth	Dig a hole about 2 times wider than the rootball and same depth. Set at nursery depth; do not bury graft union.
Soil	Well-drained loam; slightly acidic to neutral. Mix in compost; avoid fresh manure.
Stake	Install a sturdy stake and tie the central leader loosely at intervals.
Mulch	Mulch 5 to 8 cm, keeping away from trunk.

Watering and feeding

Water	About 2.5 to 4 cm per week during establishment and fruit swell; more in pots. Use drip or slow soaker.
Feeding	In early spring apply a balanced fertilizer per label, or top-dress with compost. In containers, feed lightly every 4 to 6 weeks in season.

Article: cveti-doma.ru/en/columnar-pears/

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Training and pruning - keep a slender column

Central leader	Maintain one straight leader tied to a stake. Do not head the leader unless it is damaged; replace with the best upright shoot if needed.
Laterals	Shorten side shoots in summer to 10 to 15 cm to form fruiting spurs; remove shoots pointing inward or strongly downward.
Winter check	While dormant, thin crowded spurs to prevent overbearing; retain a light, even distribution along the column.
Fruit thinning	After fruit set, thin clusters to 1 to 2 fruits every 10 to 15 cm for size and to protect the column from bending.

Pests and diseases - quick view

Common issues	Aphids, pear psylla, spider mites; scab, rust, fire blight in some regions.
Prevention	Good airflow, sanitation, and balanced watering. Prune for light; avoid overhead irrigation in the evening.
Action	Rinse small pests with water or use insecticidal soap if needed. Cut out blighted shoots well into healthy wood and sanitize tools.

Seasonal calendar

Spring	Plant, stake, and tie in; feed; thin blossoms lightly on young trees to help establishment.
Summer	Water steadily; summer prune and spur-trim laterals; thin fruit clusters; watch for pests.
Autumn	Harvest by variety timing; top up mulch; remove mummified fruit and fallen leaves.
Winter	Check ties and stakes; light structural prune; thin crowded spurs.

Column plan worksheet

Variety / pollinator	Spacing or pot size	Stake and ties	Pruning notes	Action date

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