



Caring For Raspberries



Choosing a Site:

Raspberries produce best in full sun, but can tolerate partial shade. Raspberries grow best on a raised bed 8-10" high and 18-36" wide. We suggest working Gardner & Bloome Soil Building Compost into the raised beds. This will help prevent root rot. The pH should be between 6.0 and 6.5. If your pH is below 6.0 add lime.

Planting:

Soak the roots in Root Stimulator mixed with water for 15-20 minutes. Dig a shallow hole large enough to accommodate the roots. Prune off any damaged root parts. Spread the root mass and set the plant in the ground. Cover the roots and press firmly on the soil to remove air pockets. Water the plants in with Root Stimulator mixed with water. Fertilizing with Dr. Earth's Bud & Bloom Booster or Espoma Plant-tone should be done 4-6 weeks later. Space plants 2-3ft apart in a row. It is wise to trellis all raspberries. A simple trellis system 6' tall of wire supports strung between posts is preferred.

Pruning:

On establish plants, pruning should be done in the early spring. First look for canes with no buds or no new growth. These canes were the ones that produced fruit last year and should be pruned away. This will allow better air circulation and higher quality berries.

Harvest:

Berries should be harvested every 3 to 6 days depending on weather and cultivation. When ripe the berries come right off the cane. To extend the shelf life, pick berries when they are dry and refrigerate as soon as possible.