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Bare root is the cheapest way to get fruit trees each year!

- **What is bare root?** Bare root trees are grown in the ground and then popped out in the winter when they are dormant. They are not in pots, roots are exposed.
- **When can I buy bare root?** Bare root trees are typically available from mid-January until March.
- **Why is bare root cheaper?** These trees are cheaper for two main reasons. 1) They are grown in the ground so they grow faster than they would in pots. 2) Since the trees aren't in pots, they can be shipped much easier than potted trees. One truck can hold thousands of bare root trees, where only a few hundred potted ones could fit.
- **Do bare root need special treatment?** Not really! Like any fruit tree, they will need protection from deer, yearly pruning, and yearly dormant oil spray (especially on peaches and nectarines). [Click here for our Gardening Tip about spraying fruit trees.](#)
- **When do I plant bare root trees?** Bare root trees need to be planted by March (or maybe April in colder/snowier areas). Ideally, you would plant your tree the day that you bring it home from the nursery. If you are not ready, you can either: 1) store it until March, keep roots covered with a pile of sand or 2) plant it in a pot with potting soil. If you plant it in a pot, however, it will need to stay in this pot until fully rooted (at least 3 months, or better to wait until fall). Once it is fully rooted, you can replant it into the ground or into a larger pot.
- **How do I plant bare root trees?** When you purchase a bare root tree, we will include these instructions from Dave Wilson Nursery:

Bare Root Trees

Planting instructions (from Dave Wilson Nursery):

- Dig hole a little deeper than the root is tall, & make it wide enough to fit the longest roots without bending.
- Use a gopher basket or form wire mesh around roots if there is any chance of gopher activity.
- Backfill with native or **slightly** amended soil until the bottom of the hole is at the right depth for the tree.
- Prune off any broken, rotted or twisted roots, making a clean cut.
- Position the tree, spread the roots and refill the hole, tamping the soil around the roots as you go.
- Water to help the soil settle. Usually, no further water is necessary until the tree begins to bud. Allow the rain to water, but do not water by hand or with a system as overwatering can rot the roots.

****We highly recommend spraying your trees before leaves emerge with an organic copper fungicide or dormant oil to help prevent diseases in the coming seasons. This is especially necessary for peaches and nectarines.***

THERE IS NO GUARANTEE ON BARE ROOT TREES