

# AVOCADO GROWING GUIDE

## How to Plant an Avocado Tree and Get It Established



**The main rule:**  
**Avocados like lots of water, but hate wet feet.**

Their roots need consistent moisture AND excellent drainage. IF you dry them out or keep them waterlogged, you can lose the tree.



### 1 IN CONTAINERS



- Use a well-drained mix that retains moisture. Our Top Tropicals Abundance Mix is perfect for avocados.
- Container must drain freely and never sit in standing water.
- Avocado pots are often placed on blocks for excellent drainage and irrigation from above.

### 2 PLANT HIGH, NOT LOW



- Choose the highest, best-drained location. Never plant in low spots that collect water.
- Plant on a gentle mound, with the top of the root ball 4-6 inches above surrounding grade.
- Backfill and mix compost with native existing soil.

### 3 MULCH HEAVILY



- Mulch conserves moisture, moderates soil temperature and adds organic matter.
- Keep mulch several inches away from the trunk.

### 4 WATERING – THE FIRST 60 DAYS



Never allow a newly planted avocado to dry out. Adjust for your soil, weather and rainfall.

- At planting: Water thoroughly.
- First week: About every other day.
- Next 1-2 months: About 1-2 times per week.
- Hot, dry or windy weather: Check more often.
- Heavy rain or wet soil: Skip irrigation.

The goal is consistently **moist**, never **waterlogged**.

### 5 STAKE YOUNG TREES



- Young avocado trunks are fragile and flexible.
- Stake when necessary to prevent wind from bending or rocking the tree.
- Keep ties loose and remove the support once the tree is strong enough to stand on its own.

### 6 BE PATIENT



Avocados can be slow to establish. A new tree may pause growth or drop some leaves.

Don't panic. Maintain proper moisture and drainage and give it time.

Once established, avocados grow fast and vigorously.

### 7 FERTILIZE



We use Green Magic controlled-release fertilizer for steady nutrition and Sunshine Boosters C-Cibus as a liquid supplement. Don't over-fertilize new trees. Establish the roots first.

### 8 PRUNE AFTER FRUITING



Prune after harvest and before the next flowering cycle. Shorten overly vigorous shoots and shape the tree for a balanced, manageable canopy.

### 9 CHOOSE THE RIGHT AVOCADO



Varieties differ greatly in cold tolerance. Tropical types are more cold-sensitive, while Mexican and Mexican-hybrid varieties tolerate much colder temperatures.

## OUR COMPLETE AVOCADO GROWING GUIDE

Go far beyond the basics! Our detailed guide covers:

- ✓ Mexican, Guatemalan & West Indian types
- ✓ Cold hardiness & variety selection
- ✓ Rootstocks, A & B flowering types and pollination
- ✓ Container growing, irrigation & nutrition
- ✓ Soil pH, freeze protection & recovery
- ✓ Fruit production & common problems
- ✓ And much more!

For all things avocado, visit [TopTropicals.com](http://TopTropicals.com)



**GIVE AN AVOCADO PLENTY OF WATER, BUT GIVE THAT WATER SOMEWHERE TO GO.**

Constant moisture + excellent drainage = a happy avocado.