

Fig Planting Basics

- Select a site with full sun and well-drained soil with plenty of organic matter.

OR

- Plant in a sturdy plastic container filled with potting soil on top of a layer of terracotta shards at the bottom for drainage, and place it in a sunny location.
- Remove the new plant from its nursery pot and eliminate circling roots by laying the root ball on its side and cutting through the roots with shears. Set the plant 1" deeper than it was growing in the container.
- Young trees need regular watering while they are getting established, and established trees in dry climates will need deep watering at least every week or two. A layer of mulch over the root zone will help to conserve moisture. Yellowing or dropping leaves and dropping fruits may be signs of drought stress.
- Fig trees don't usually need regular fertilization unless they are grown in containers. Use your tree's growth rate to assess its need for feeding; if it makes less than a foot of new growth annually, apply ½ to 1 pound of actual nitrogen, in 3 or 4 feedings, beginning in late winter and ending in midsummer.
- Use ¼" plastic netting to protect fruits from birds.