



Japanese Quince

Fill small pots (4-inch pots will work well) with potting mix (growing medium), dampened and packed down. Poke two or three holes 1 inch deep in each pot. Remove seeds from storage and plant one seed per pot, covering with a mix of sand and soil. Set in an irrigation tray that is about 3 inches deep.

Place the irrigation tray in a well-lit, warm place. Provide up to eight hours of light daily, keeping the temperature between 55 and 70 degrees F. Water your quince seeds by pouring an inch of water in the tray frequently to keep the pots moist. Cover the tray with a tent of clear plastic sheeting to maintain humidity.

When seedlings emerge, keep them moist and in full light up to 10 hours a day. When they reach about 4 inches in height, transplant them to larger pots. Gradually harden off your seedlings by placing pots outside for part of a day once there is no risk of frost. Allow one week to be sure the plants are acclimated before planting outside.

Plant the pots in a row in a garden area for the summer, allowing up to 1 1/2 feet between plants. Once dormancy sets in with fall's arrival, you can transplant your quince to permanent spots. Be sure you plant them in moist, slightly acidic soil, with good drainage. Your quince trees will need protection from wind and harsh cold, as they have shallow root systems.

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