



Mirabelle Plum

Prepare a mixture of sand and perlite in a 1-to-1 ratio. Perlite is a mixture of crushed, naturally occurring volcanic rock used to help garden soil drain more easily and is widely available at nurseries.

Tap the plum seed with a hammer just enough to put a crack in the hull. This process, known as scarification, breaks the seed's dormancy and tells it that the time is right to germinate.

Plant the seed 2 to 3 inches deep in the sand and perlite mixture using a plastic container and water it thoroughly. Keep the soil constantly moist but not soggy.

Place the container in a spot where it will get at least four weeks of cold temperatures, such as outdoors, in an unheated garage or even in your refrigerator.

Remove the seed from its cold storage area and repot in a more organic soil mixture. Let the seedling grow for up to one year.

Water the seedling regularly and protect it from digging squirrels or birds by covering the soil with rocks, hardware cloth or metal screening.

Plant the tree in its permanent location in a spot that gets full sun for most of the day. Add an organic soil mix to the planting hole if your soil is not already well-draining.

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