

# Aronia Planting and Care Guide



## Planting Guide

1. For bare root plants, soak the roots in a bucket of water for a few hours before planting. For starts in small pots, skip this step.
2. Choose the best site:
  - Sun: Full sun to partial shade. (As with many berry plants, the plant will likely be smaller and produce fewer blossoms in partial shade).
  - Soil: Any soil type
  - Spacing: plant 4 ft apart.
3. Dig a hole deep and wide enough to accommodate the roots. Plant so that the roots are completely covered by soil. If you like, you can mix some compost or other organic material into the soil as you backfill the hole. Pack the soil down firmly.
4. Water immediately after planting.
5. Optional: to help maintain soil moisture mulch with 2-3 inches of wood chips, pine needles, etc.

## Care

- Newly planted Aronia should be watered several times a week to maintain moist soil. If the weather becomes dry and hot, you may need to water them every day. Once the plants have been in the ground for a few weeks, water a few times per week (more if hot and dry) throughout the first growing season. Your aronia plants probably won't need regular watering after the first year - they are delightfully low maintenance. The plants are likely to grow taller and produce more, larger berries if you do continue some regular watering after the first year though.
- Bunnies and deer love to nibble on young Aronia plants (we discovered this the hard way) and will mow them down overnight. You may want to protect your plants with chicken wire or other fencing all year round until the plants are well established.

*Adapted from our own experience, Indiana Berry and Plant Co. and [University of MN Extension](#) "Black Chokeberry"*