

HONEYCRISP

Honeycrisp is a very attractive, high quality dessert apple with a mostly sweet flavor. It lives up to its name - it is a remarkably crisp apple and is one of the outstanding new apples of the late 20th century. The flavor is excellent, with a rich sweetness and good balancing acidity.

The apples are medium-to-large in size. The skin is light yellow-green heavily flushed with with distinct red-orange-pink blush when grown in good sunlight. Keeps well; storage may improve flavor.

Honeycrisp is sometimes sold in supermarkets under the name Honeycrunch. The apples keep well in storage, and retain their unique crispness.



Uses

- Flavour quality - **Good**
- Flavour style - **Sweeter**
- Good for eating fresh
- Picking season - **Late**
- Use / keeping - **3 months or more**

Growing

- Fertility - **self-infertile**
- Flowering group - **4**
- Gardening skill - **Average**
- Vigour - **Weak growing (T1)**
- Disease Resistance – **scab resistant**
- 800 – 1000 chill hours**

How to grow Honeycrisp apple trees

Honeycrisp was developed to be cold-hardy and is a good variety for colder apple-growing regions, where its crispness and sweetness are enhanced - although it likes a warm fall season. It is one of the most cold-hardy of all apple varieties. However don't think this means it won't grow in the south - Honeycrisp has an unusually wide climate range and seems quite at home in warmer zones. However, it can be prone to bitterpit.

We have tried Honeycrisp apples grown in several different orchards and have found that whilst the crisp crunchy bite is consistent, the flavor can be distinctly empty and underwhelming if allowed to over-crop - and Honeycrisp will certainly over-crop if given a chance (which can also lead to pre-harvest drop, a particular issue with Honeycrisp in warmer areas). So whilst this is not a tree that requires thinning if outright production is your goal, if you want good flavor then thin the fruitlets as soon as they have formed.

Pollination partners for Honeycrisp

Honeycrisp is in flowering group 4. It is **self-sterile** and needs a pollination partner nearby.

Historical details

Introduced in the 1990s by the University of Minnesota, uncertain origins but probably distantly related to Keepsake. Patent expired 11/07/2008

