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July Orchard Checklist

The July jobs for your fruit trees, by climate band. Months are typical for each band: let your local frost dates and your trees have the final say.

Cold zones 3–5

- ☐ Collect fallen cherries as fruit ripens
  As fruit ripens · Cherries · Bearing trees · Zones 4, 5
- ☐ Remove fallen and unpicked cherries after harvest
  July through fall in Eastern Oregon · Cherries · Bearing trees · Zone 5 only
- ☐ Prop or lighten limbs bowing under fruit
  As the fruit sizes, through summer · Stone fruit, apples, pears · Bearing trees
- ☐ Pick peaches when flesh yields to thumb pressure
  End of July to late September in Maine · Peaches, nectarines · Bearing trees · Zone 5 only
- ☐ Pick plums as they soften
  Late July through October in Maine · Plums · Bearing trees · Zones 4, 5
- ☐ Pick apricots as they soften and color
  Late July to mid-August in Minnesota · Apricots · Bearing trees · Zone 5 only
- ☐ Pick tart cherries when soft and full-flavored
  Late June to late July in Minnesota · continues
- ☐ Pick sweet cherries when colored and sweet
  Early summer, as the fruit colors · continues

Middle zones 6–7

- ☐ Pick tart cherries when soft and full-flavored
  July in Oregon · Tart cherries · Bearing trees
- ☐ Remove fallen and unpicked cherries after harvest
  July through fall in Eastern Oregon · Cherries · Bearing trees
- ☐ Prop or lighten limbs bowing under fruit
  As the fruit sizes, through summer · Stone fruit, apples, pears, persimmons · Bearing trees
- ☐ Cut vigorous shoots from the peach tree's center
  Early to mid-July in South Carolina · Peaches, nectarines · Bearing trees · Zone 7 only
- ☐ Pick peaches when flesh yields to thumb pressure
  End of July to late September in Maine · Peaches, nectarines · Bearing trees · Zone 6 only
- ☐ Pick plums as they soften
  Late July through October in Maine · Plums · Bearing trees · Zone 6 only
- ☐ Pick plums as they soften, July to August
  July to August in Maryland · Plums · Bearing trees · Zone 7 only
- ☐ Pick apricots slightly soft, July to August
  July to August in Utah · Apricots · Bearing trees
- ☐ Pick sweet cherries when colored and sweet
  Early summer, as the fruit colors · continues

Warm zones 8–10

- ☐ Pick tart cherries when soft and full-flavored
  July in Oregon · Tart cherries · Bearing trees · Zone 8 only
- ☐ Water and mulch figs through the fruiting season
  Fruiting season, July to October · Figs · Zone 9 only
- ☐ Pick brebas before the main crop
  July in Florida · Figs · Bearing trees · Zone 9 only
- ☐ Check figs daily and pick before rain
  July to October · Figs · Bearing trees · Zone 9 only
- ☐ Watch ripening figs for souring
  As figs ripen, July to October · Figs · Bearing trees · Zone 9 only
- ☐ Rake up rust-spotted fig leaves
  Fig season, from July · Figs · Zone 9 only
- ☐ Pick apples as the ground color turns
  About 100 to 180 days after bloom, by variety · Apples · Bearing trees · Zone 8 only
- ☐ Pick European pears mature but unripe
  About 100 to 150 days after bloom, by variety · Pears · Bearing trees · Zone 8 only
- ☐ Chill the harvest quickly and keep it humid
  Through harvest · Apples, pears · Bearing trees · Zone 8 only
- ☐ Pick pomegranates that ring when tapped
  July to November, by variety and region · Pomegranates · Bearing trees · Zones 9, 10
- ☐ Cut vigorous shoots from the peach tree's center
  Early to mid-July in South Carolina · Peaches, nectarines · Bearing trees · Zone 8 only
- ☐ Pick plums as they soften, July to August
  July to August in Maryland · Plums · Bearing trees · Zone 8 only
- ☐ Pick apricots slightly soft, July to August
  July to August in Utah · Apricots · Bearing trees · Zone 8 only

Sources: University of Saskatchewan; Oregon State University Extension Service; University of Maine Cooperative Extension and 11 more (full list at the web address on the left)

Data as of 15 Nov 2026