

Fruit for Small Spaces



By Jeff Gustin, Producer Garden Time TV

In these tough economic times people are looking for more 'bang for the buck' from their gardens. One way of doing that is by planting fruit trees bred for small spaces. There are a number of different varieties of fruit trees that you can enjoy in containers or against a fence or wall. You can even enjoy multiple varieties of fruit on one plant.



Let's first look at Columnar Apples. These are apple 'trees' that are actually single trunk varieties. They have limited branches and they tend to stay small. These trees are perfect for deck containers and tight spots in your garden. Varieties include 'Scarlet Sentinel', 'Golden Sentinel' and 'Northpole'. These are considered 'natural dwarfs' and can grow to be 8-12 feet tall. We have had great success with our tree and it is great for snacking in the late summer.

Another way to bring fruit to your garden, deck or patio is with espaliered fruit. These types of fruit trees can be kept along a fence, a wall or in a big container on your deck. They are trained to grow in a small space and sometimes they are grafted to grow in a flat two-dimensional space. Espaliered apples, pears, cherries, peaches and plums can all be found in your local garden