

APPLE GRAFTING WORKSHOP

Aftercare Instructions

Your Rootstock is MM111.

Your scion (graft) is:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____



Please make sure to **properly label** your trees today. In the photo to the left, the pots are labeled, and then as insurance, tags were placed in the pots. Later, when the plants were installed in the orchard, labels were placed on the plants themselves. Once the trees are planted on your property, consider making a map of the varieties.

Maintain a good seal on the graft.

The seal that protects and holds the graft must be kept in place long enough for the rootstock and scion to grow together.



Be **extremely gentle** with your newly grafted trees, and consider potting them for safekeeping until next fall or winter. Your trees need time to heal and bond with their rootstock. The graft union must be protected from jarring or bumps that could dislodge the graft union before it heals completely.



Your trees have just been through a lot! In order for your trees to heal and get over transplant shock, place them in a **protected location** away from strong sunlight, freezing temperatures and wind. Keep deer, dogs, and children away from your trees while the graft union is vulnerable. If you choose to plant them in the ground before next fall, provide some temporary shade protection and plenty of water.



Fertilize your trees with 1 tsp 10-10-10 fertilizer in early spring and again in summer.

Pruning: Never allow rootstock shoots to grow taller than the scion shoots. The rootstock leaves are temporary and will provide carbohydrates to promote root growth and callus growth at the graft union. The *following* March prune back the scion to two buds. The second(lower) bud is your insurance policy in case the top bud is damaged. When the top bud begins to grow, remove the lower insurance bud.

After one season, you should have a tall whip with a few branches. Congratulations on starting an orchard!

For more information on growing your apple trees, see the UGA Extension Publication, "**Home Garden Apples**" Circular 740, available at:
<https://extension.uga.edu/publications>