When apricots are not grown on their own roots, the scion variety is grafted onto a rootstock which is produced from seed (then called a ‘seedling’), or produced from cuttings. The two forms of grafting used to produce apricots are (1) bud grafting and (2) whip and tongue grafting.

**Bud Grafting**

Diagram illustrating the bud grafting technique

1. Cut a slice of bud and bark from the parent tree.
2. Cut a similar sliver off the rootstock, making a little lip at the base to slot the scion into.
3. Join the two together and bind.
4. In time, the scion bud will grow into a shoot, which will develop into the desired tree.

**Whip and Tongue Grafting**

Diagram illustrating the whip and tongue grafting technique

1. Make a sloping cut in the rootstock with a ‘tongue’ pointing up.
2. Make a matching cut in the scion wood with a ‘tongue’ pointing downwards.
3. Join the two and bind with tape, covering the graft well.

Prepared by Kitren Glozer, Louise Ferguson, and Mark Bell, 2007

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