

Choosing the right tree to plant

Choosing what tree to plant can be difficult with the number of different species, cultivars and varieties that are currently available. There are a number of useful books and websites, but if you are still unsure it may be useful to visit a garden or arboretum. There are some basic points that should be considered as follows.

Soil - will the tree grow well in the soil in which is to be planted? Acidity, drainage and the type of soil will all have a bearing. Some tree species are more specific than others as to their requirements.

Local distinctiveness - what species grow naturally in the area already? Native species are usually best for wildlife and 'fit in' with the landscape character and are normally preferable to ornamental species.

Available space - is the tree able to reach its full life expectancy without causing future conflict with

buildings, shading, overhanging roads and footpaths etc.? It may not be sensible to replace a large forest type tree in a small domestic garden with another one unless you are prepared to remove it before it outgrows its situation.

Benefits - as well as having obvious ornamental attributes, trees provide shelter, reduce temperature extremes and produce oxygen.

Once you have decided on your tree, the next step is to purchase it. Please bear in mind that if you have removed a protected tree (that is one growing in a conservation area or subject to a tree preservation order) there may either be a duty (as in the case of dead or dangerous trees) or a condition (in the case of a tree preservation order application) requiring the planting of a replacement tree. In this situation you may be required to agree the species of the replacement tree with the council before you plant it.





You should always buy your tree from a reputable tree nursery or garden centre which should also be able to provide advice on selecting the right tree. You should bear the following points in mind when selecting or ordering your tree:

- For biosecurity reasons look to source your new trees from UK grown nurseries, only buying trees from reputable, responsible suppliers and inspecting all trees prior to purchase.
- Ensure that the tree has a single, straight undamaged leading shoot or a balanced and well developed branching head according to the species or cultivar.
- 3. Ensure there are no damaged branches or areas of bark and the tree is free from obvious pests and diseases.
- 4. Bare rooted trees should have a balanced and fibrous root system which has been (and should be) protected from drying out at all times.

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Magnolia in flower



Small trees up to 8m/30'; native species

- Common Box (Buxus sempervirens)
- Dogwood (Cornus sanguinea)
- Hazel (Corylus avellana)
- Midland Hawthorn (Crataegus laevigata)
- Hawthorn (Crataegus monogyna)
- Spindle (Euonymus europaea)
- Holly (llex aquifolium)
- Privet (Ligustrum vulgare)
- Crab apple (Malus sylvestris)
- Blackthorn (Prunus spinosa)
- Purging Buckthorn (Rhamnus cathartica)
- Goat Willow (Salix caprea)
- Osier Willow (Salix viminalis)
- Elder (Sambucus nigra)
- Guelder rose (Viburnum opulus)



Small trees up to 8m/30'; ornamental species

- Korean Fir (Abies koreana)
- Silver Wattle (Acacia dealbata)
- Paper Bark maple (Acer griseum)
- Japanese maple (Acer palmatum)
- Cut leaved Alder (Alnus glutinosa 'Imperialis')
- Snowy Mespilus (Amelanchier lamarckii)
- Himalayan Birch (Betula utilis 'Silver Shadow')
- Judas tree (Cercis siliquastrum)
- Pillar Apple (Malus tschonoskii)
- Sargent's Cherry (Prunus sargentii 'Rancho')
- Chanticleer Pear (Pyrus calleryana 'Chanticleer')
- Golden Robinia (Robinia pseudoacacia 'Frisia')
- Fern leaved Rowan (Sorbus aucuparia 'Asplenifolia')
- Japanese Rowan (Sorbus commixta)

Medium trees 8-18m/30-60'; native species

- Field Maple (Acer campestre)
- Common Alder (Alnus glutinosa)
- Silver Birch (Betula pendula)
- Downy Birch (Betulus pubescens)
- Alder Buckthorn (Frangula alnus)
- Common Juniper (Juniperus communis)
- Scots Pine (Pinus sylvestris)
- Wild Cherry (Prunus avium)
- Bird Cherry (Prunus padus)
- Plymouth Pear (Pyrus cordata)
- Grey Willow (Salix cinerea subsp. oleifolia)
- Crack Willow (Salix fragilis)
- Bay Willow (Salix pentandra)
- Whitebeam (Sorbus aria)
- Rowan (Sorbus aucuparia)
- Wild service tree (Sorbus torminalis)
- Yew (Taxus baccata)
- Wych Elm (Ulmus glabra)

Medium trees 8-18m/30-60';

ornamental species

- Fraser Fir (Abies Fraserii)
- Trident maple (Acer buergerianum)
- Amur maple (Acer ginnala)
- Lobel's Maple (Acer lobelia)
- Box Elder (Acer negundo)
- Norway maple (Acer platanoides)
- Purple Norway Maple variety (Acer platanoides 'Crimson Sentry')
- Red maple (Acer rubrum)
- Sweet Buckeye (Aesculus flava)
- Italian Alder (Alnus cordata)
- White Himalayan Birch (Betula utilis var jacquemontii)
- Katsura tree (Cercidiphyllum japonicum)
- Turkish Hazel (Corylus colourna)
- Common Walnut (Juglans regia)
- Sweet Gum (Liquidamber styraciflua)
- Persian Ironwood (Parrotia persica)
- Mitchell Whitebeam (Sorbus thibetica John Mitchell)
- Lime cultivar (Tilia 'Harold Hillier')
- Caucasian Lime (Tilia x euchlora)
- Lime (Tilila henryana)
- Mongolian Lime (Tilia mongolica)
- Thuja (Thujopsis dolabrata)
- Wollemi Pine (Wollemia nobilis)
- Japanese Elm (Zelkova serrata)





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Large trees - native species

- Sycamore (Acer pseudoplatanus)
- Hornbeam (Carpinus betulus)
- Beech (Fagus sylvatica)
- Black Poplar (Populus nigra)
- Aspen (Populus tremula)
- English oak (Quercus robur)
- Sessile Oak (Quercus petraea)
- White Willow (Salix alba)
- Common Lime (Tilia x europaea)
- Large leafed Lime (Tilia platyphyllos)
- Small leaved Lime (Tilia cordata)

Large trees -15-30m; ornamental species

- Silver Fir (Abies alba)
- Caucasian Fir (Abies nordmanniana)
- Silver maple (Acer saccharinum)
- Sugar maple (Acer saccharum)
- Horse Chestnut (Aesculus hippocastanum)
- Indian Horse Chestnut (Aesculus indica)
- Shagbark hickory (Carya ovata)
- Sweet Chestnut (Castinea sativa)
- Indian Bean Tree (Catalpa bignioides)
- Japanese Cedar (Cryptomeria japonica)
- Handkerchief tree / Dove tree (Davidia involucrata)
- Maidenhair tree (Ginkgo biloba)
- Black walnut (Juglans nigra)
- European larch (Larix decidua)
- Tulip tree (Liriodendron tulipifera)
- Dawn Redwood (Metasequoia glyptostroboides)
- Hop-Hornbeam (Ostrya carpinifolia)
- Fox glove tree (Paulownia tomentosa)
- London plane (Platanus x hispanica)
- Oriental plane (Platanus orientalis)
- Douglas Fir (Pseudotsuga menziesii)
- Caucasian wingnut (Pterocarya fraxinifolia)
- Turkey Oak (Quercus cerris)
- Holm Oak (Quercus ilex)
- Pin Oak (Quercus palustris)
- Red Oak (Quercus rubra)
- Giant Redwood (Sequoiadendron giganteum)
- Coastal Redwood (Sequoia sempervirens)
- Swamp cypress (Taxodium distichum)
- Western Red Cedar(Thuja plicata)
- Silver Lime (Tilia tomentosa)
- Resistant Elms (Ulmus new horizon/ Ulmus lobel)





Gardens to see trees in Test Valley

Sir Harold Hillier Arboretum and Gardens, Romsey

Longstock Water Gardens, Longstock

Houghton Lodge Gardens, Houghton

Mottisfont Abbey and Gardens, Mottisfont

Romsey Abbey, Romsey

Broadlands House, Romsey

Local Nature reserves in Test Valley

- Rooksbury Mill Local Nature Reserve
- River Anton Way
- Anton Lakes Local Nature Reserve
- Tadburn Meadows Local Nature Reserve
- Valley Park Woodlands Local Nature Reserve

Useful contacts and references:

If you have any concerns regarding trees managed by Test Valley Borough Council - often land in public open spaces and parks - please contact Customer Services who will firstly confirm whether the land is indeed managed by the council.

Telephone 01264 368000 or 01794 527700 / Minicom 01264 368052

Test Valley Borough Council, Beech Hurst, Weyhill Road, Andover, Hampshire, SP10 3AJ. www.testvalley.gov.uk

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