



# **Plant maintenance guide**













Image / Link	Plant Name (Common name)	Variety <i>Evergreen / Deciduous</i>	Description	Shaping / Pruning (Growth rate)	Recommended soil for planting
	<p>Buxus sempervirens (Common Box)</p>	<p>Evergreen</p>	<p>Common box has beautifully small oval/oblong glossy leaves. It is compact in nature but if left to grow over an extended period of time can grow upward of 4 to 8 metres with an equal spread. It does well in both partial shade and full sunlight. Perfect for topiary or edging a garden.</p>	<p>Can be Pruned 2 or 3 times in a growth season (Slow)</p>	<p>Grows well in all soil types as long as it is kept moist and well drained.</p>
	<p>Carpinus Betulus (Hornbeam)</p>	<p>Deciduous</p>	<p>Hornbeam makes a fantastic hedge or tree. With leaves that are 5-8 cm long and ovate in shape, which then turn a stunning yellow in Autumn. During late Summer it grows fruiting catkins similar in appearance to hops up to 8cm long. In over half a century in can grow above 12 meters tall.</p>	<p>Only prune once a season, around mid- to late Summer (Medium)</p>	<p>Grows well in all soil types as long as it is kept moist and well drained.</p>
	<p>Elaeagnus Ebbingei (Ebbinge's silverberry)</p>	<p>Evergreen</p>	<p>Elaeagnus features wonderful silvery leaves which are medium in size and textured to the touch almost like leather. It bares small cylindrical white flowers which carry a fragrant scent. With a maximum height of anything from 2.5m – 4m and growing well in sheltered and full sunlight, it makes an excellent hedge.</p>	<p>Once a season anytime from mid- to late Spring (Medium)</p>	<p>Grows well in all soil types as long as it is kept moist and well drained.</p>

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	<p>Fagus Sylvatica Purpurea <i>(Purple Beech)</i></p>	<p>Deciduous</p>	<p>Fagus have smooth grey bark, with lovely ovate leaves. It also features modest flowers which can be followed by small berries. The Purpurea family is known for its beautiful deep purple leaf colouring which fades to a rich red in the Autumn. They grow well in both shelter and full sunlight making them perfect for any garden. Over a period of 50 years it can grow over 12 meters tall.</p>	<p>Best pruned in Winter or early Spring <i>(Slow/Medium)</i></p>	<p>Grows well in all soil types as long as it is kept moist and well drained.</p>
	<p>Fagus Sylvatica <i>(Green Beech)</i></p>	<p>Deciduous</p>	<p>Fagus have smooth grey bark, with lovely ovate leaves. It also features modest flowers which can be followed by small berries. Fagus sylvatica leaves are a beautiful mix of yellow &amp; green in Spring, which fades to a rich golden brown in the Autumn. They grow well in both shelter and full sunlight making them perfect for any garden. Over a period of 50 years it can grow over 12meters tall.</p>	<p>Best pruned in Winter or early Spring <i>(Slow/Medium)</i></p>	<p>Grows well in all soil types as long as it is kept moist and well drained.</p>
	<p>Ilex crenata <i>(Japanese holly)</i></p>	<p>Evergreen</p>	<p>Ilex is a good alternative to Buxus. It is similar in characteristics and appearance. Ilex has glossy petite leaves up to 3cm in length. It can display a small white flower in the Summer which can be trailed by small black berries in Autumn. If left to grow it could reach a height of 4-8 metres but it is most commonly used as an edging plant just like Buxus and usually kept to a smaller height. Grows well in both</p>	<p>Can be pruned 2 or 3 times in a growth season <i>(Slow)</i></p>	<p>Grows well in all soil types as long as it is kept moist and well drained.</p>

			sunlight and partially shaded conditions.		
	Ilex Meserveae <i>(Blue Maid)</i>	Evergreen	Meserveae has glossy green spiny leaves, in the Autumn bares small red berries even when the plants are small. It can be very conical in shape giving good security at the base. Meserveae can reach a maximum height of around 4-8 metres in 10 to 20 years. It grows well in both partial shade and well-lit areas, making it an appealing hedge plant especially for its security value.	Best trimmed once in late Summer <i>(Medium)</i>	Grows well in all soil types as long as it is kept moist and well drained.
	Ligustrum Ovalifolium <i>(Garden Privet)</i>	Evergreen	Ligustrum is a fast growing dense hedge with medium sized leaves and clusters of creamy-white flowers in July, attractive to insects. Shade tolerant, very fast growing and a dense hedge. Normally evergreen but may lose leaves in very cold Winters	Can be pruned up to 2 or 3 times in the season <i>(Fast)</i>	Grows well in all soil types as long as it is kept moist and well drained.
	Photinia <i>(Red Robin)</i>	Evergreen	Photinia Red Robin is an evergreen shrub similar to laurel but with brilliant red young growth that looks stunning especially in Spring. Photinia forms a dense evergreen hedge up to 4 metres tall and is quick growing in either sheltered or exposed areas.	Best pruned towards the end of Winter or early Spring <i>(Fast)</i>	Grows well in all soil types as long as it is kept moist and well drained.

	<p>Prunus laurocerasus (Cherry laurel)</p>	<p>Evergreen</p>	<p>Cherry laurels make a good instant hedge as they are so dense and are fast growing. They have a lovely glossy green leaf thought the year, they can also bare small red berries that turn to black. Laurels grow well in shade or direct sunlight making it a great instant hedge.</p>	<p>Recommended to be trimmed twice a year. <i>(Fast )</i></p>	<p>Grows well in all soil types as long as it is kept moist and well drained.</p>
	<p>Prunus Lusitnaica <i>(Portuguese Laurels)</i></p>	<p>Evergreen</p>	<p>Luxurious dark green, pointed, glossy leaves on beautiful bright red stems. It has small fragrant white flowers in Summer and small red fruits, turning black, in Autumn. It is easy to grow in all soils. It is relatively fast growing at approx. 40cm per year in direct light or partial shade. The maximum height of a lusitnaica can be upwards of 12 metres.</p>	<p>Should be trimmed to shape in late Summer. <i>(Medium)</i></p>	<p>Grows well in all soil types as long as it is kept moist and well drained.</p>
	<p>Pyracantha <i>(Firethorn)</i></p>	<p>Evergreen</p>	<p>Pyracantha, or firethorn as it is also known, is a pretty shrub with attractive flowers and magnificent red, yellow or orange berries in Autumn and Winter. It is often trained against a wall or fence. It also makes an excellent evergreen hedge. It grows well in all lights even shade.</p>	<p>Best pruned towards the end of Winter or early Spring. <i>(Slow)</i></p>	<p>Grows well in all soil types as long as it is kept moist and well drained.</p>

	<p>Quercus Ilex <i>(Evergreen oak)</i></p>	<p>Evergreen</p>	<p>Quercus hedges have dark green lobed or toothed leaves which flowers modestly. Occasionally has good Autumn colour. It grows extremely well in most conditions except full shade.</p>	<p>Best pruned towards the end of Winter or early Spring. <i>(Medium)</i></p>	<p>Grows well in all soil types as long as it is kept moist and well drained.</p>
	<p>Taxus baccata <i>(Yew)</i></p>	<p>Evergreen</p>	<p>Evergreen hedge with characteristic red fleshy berries (called arils). Single seed in each aril. Height Typically 15 - 28 m. Used for hedging and topiary. All parts of the tree except red aril are poisonous to man and animals although deer browse young seedlings. Birds eat the arils and spread the seed.</p>	<p>When required at any time of year. <i>(Slow)</i></p>	<p>Grows well in all soil types as long as it is kept moist and well drained.</p>
	<p>Thuja occ Brabant <i>(Western red cedar)</i></p>	<p>Evergreen</p>	<p>A fabulous alternative to the Leylandii. It grows slower, smells delicious and will perform in deep shade. Clipping is not such a worry, as if you were to cut a little deep it can re-grow from the branch. Unlike the Leylandii where when you see brown, it's all over and there will be brown for ever more. We really rate the Thuja as a great plant for an evergreen conifer hedge.</p>	<p>No pruning required. <i>(Slow)</i></p>	<p>Grows well in all soil types as long as it is kept moist and well drained.</p>