

FIELD PRUNING DECIDUOUS TREES

Genus/ Species	Tree Shape	Bud Arrangement	Pithy Center	Root Pruning	Before Planting	At Planting	In the Field	Type of Prune	Leader Considerations	Time to Limb Up	Recurrent Growth	Special Notes
<i>Acer</i>												
<i>campestre</i>	Broad-Rounded	Opposite	No	Med-Hard	No	Best	Major Pruning In 2nd Year	Medium	2nd Year	Mid-Late June	August-Can Be Sheared	Can Winter Prune.
<i>ginnala</i>	Rounded	Opposite	No	Med-Hard	No	Best		Hard	2nd Year	Mid-Late June	August-Can Be Sheared	Can Winter Prune.
<i>griseum</i>	Upright Oval	Opposite	No	Minimal	No	Best		Minimal	2nd Year	Mid-Late June	None	Once Shaped, It's Best To Leave Alone. Can Winter Prune.
<i>miyabei</i>	Pyramidal	Opposite	No	Minimal	No	Best	Major Pruning In 2nd Year	Minimal	2nd Year	Mid-Late June	August To September-Best To Hand Prune	
<i>negundo</i>	Rounded	Opposite	No	Med-Hard	No	Best		Hard	2nd Year	Mid-Late June	August To September-Best To Hand Prune	
<i>platanoides</i>	Rounded	Opposite	No	Hard	Yes	Best		Hard	1st Year	Mid-Late June	August To September-Best To Hand Prune	Can Winter Prune.
<i>rubrum</i>	Upright, Rounded	Opposite	No	Hard	Yes	Best		Hard	Top And Tie Year One	Mid-Late June	August-Can Be Sheared	Avoid Winter Pruning.
<i>saccharinum</i>	Oval, Loose	Opposite	No	Hard	No	Best	In Leaf	Minimal	2nd Year	Late June-July	August To September-Best To Hand Prune	Do Not Limb Until In Full Leaf.
<i>saccharum</i>	Upright, Rounded	Opposite	No	Med-Hard	No	Best	Major Pruning In 2nd Year	Hard	2nd Year	Late June-July	August To September-Best To Hand Prune	Best To Winter Prune.
<i>tataricum</i>	Oval, Irregular	Opposite	No	Medium	No	Best	Major Pruning In 2nd Year	Hard	2nd Year	Late June-July	August To September-Best To Hand Prune	

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<i>truncatum</i>	Upright Rounded	Opposite	No	Medium	No	Best	In Leaf	Minimal	2nd Year	Late June-July	August To September-Best To Hand Prune	
<i>x freemanii</i>	Narrow Upright	Opposite	No	Med-Hard	No	No	In Leaf	Hard	Top And Tie Year One	Late June-July	August To September-Best To Hand Prune	Avoid Winter Pruning.
<i>Aesculus</i>												
<i>hipp</i>	Upright Oval to Rounded	Opposite	Yes	Minimal	No	No	In Leaf	Minimal	2nd Year	July	August To September-Best To Hand Prune	Best To Bud Prune In Early Spring Or At Planting.
<i>x carnea</i>	Compact, Rounded	Opposite	Yes	Minimal	No	No	In Leaf	Minimal	2nd Year	July	August To September-Best To Hand Prune	Best To Bud Prune In Early Spring Or At Planting.
<i>Amelanchier</i>	Upright Oval	Alternate	No	Medium	Best	Yes		Hard	Top And Tie Year One	July	August To September-Best To Hand Prune	Prune To Outside Buds and Make Angle Cut. Can Shear Once Established.
<i>Betula</i>	Varies	Alternate	No	Minimal	No	No	In Leaf	Light	Top And Tie Year One	Late June-July	August To September-Best To Hand Prune	Hydrate For 24 Hours Before Planting. Hard Prune Late in the Season and in 2 nd Year.
<i>Carpinus</i>	Varies	Alternate	No	Minimal	No	No	In Leaf	Light	As Needed	July	August-Can Be Sheared	Best To Allow Growth Before Pruning.
<i>Catalpa</i>	Upright, Oval	Alternate	Yes	Medium	Yes	Best	In Leaf	Hard/Top	Top And Tie Year One	July	August To September-Best To Hand Prune	Leave ¾" To 1" Above Desired Buds When Pruning.
<i>Celtis</i>	Spreading, Rounded	Alternate	Yes	Minimal	No	Best		Hard	Top And Tie Year One	July-August	August To September-Best To Hand Prune	Hydrate For 24 Hours Before Planting.
<i>Cercis</i>	Vase-Shaped	Alternate	Yes	Minimal	No	Best		Medium	Top And Tie Year One	July	August To September-Best To Hand Prune	Leave ¾" To 1" Above Desired Buds When Pruning. Takes Off in 2 nd year.

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<i>Cladrastis</i>	Broad-Rounded	Alternate	Yes	Minimal	No	No	After Bud Swell	Hard	Top And Tie Year One	July-August	August To September-Best To Hand Prune	Handle New Plants With Care. Leave ¾" To 1" Above Desired Buds When Pruning. Herbicide Sensitive.
<i>Cornus</i>												
<i>mas</i>	Upright Rounded	Opposite	No	Minimal	No	No	In Leaf	Minimal	If Needed Only	July-August	August To September-Best To Hand Prune	Plant Asap. Does Not Perform In Heavy, Wet Soils. We Suggest Receiving These Plants No Later Than May 1 st .
<i>kousa</i>	Upright Rounded	Opposite	No	Minimal	Best	Yes	In Leaf	Medium To None	If Needed Only	July-August	August To September-Best To Hand Prune. Can Also be Sheared.	Small Root System. Consider Removing Branches To Equal Root Mass.
<i>x Hybrid</i>	Rounded	Opposite	No	Minimal	Yes	Yes	In Leaf	Medium To None	If Needed Only	July-August	August To September-Best To Hand Prune	Small Root System. Consider Removing Branches To Equal Root Mass.
<i>Crataegus</i>	Rounded, Spreading	Alternate	No	Minimal	Best	Yes	In Leaf	Hard	Top And Tie Year One	July-August	August-Can Be Sheared	Slow To Push.
<i>Fraxinus</i>	Upright, Rounded	Opposite	Yes	Medium	Yes	Best		Hard	Top And Tie Year One	July-August	August To September-Best To Hand Prune	Can Winter Prune.
<i>Ginkgo</i>	Upright Broad Conical	Alternate	Yes	Minimal	No	No	Green Wood Only	Minimal	Best Not To Touch	July-August	August To September-Best To Hand Prune	Likes Alkaline Soils.
<i>Gleditsia</i>	Varies	Alternate	Yes	Med-Hard	Yes, But Minimal	Yes	Best After Bud Swell	Medium To Hard	Top And Tie Year One	As Needed	August To September-Best To Hand Prune	Handle New Plants With Care. Leave ¾" To 1" Above Desired Buds When Pruning. Can Be Winter Pruned.
<i>Koelreuteria</i>	Rounded	Alternate	Yes	Minimal	No	No	In Leaf	Hard/Top	Top And Tie Year One	August-September	August To September-Best To Hand Prune	Consider Pretreating For Ambrosia Beetle.

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Liquidambar	Upright Rounded To Oval	Alternate	No	Minimal	No	Minimal	Best After Bud Swell	Medium To Hard	Top And Tie Year One	August-September	August To September-Best To Hand Prune	Once Established, Multiple Prunes May Be Needed.
Liriodendron	Pyramidal To Oval	Alternate	Yes	Minimal	No	No	In Leaf	Minimal	Top And Tie Year One	September-October	N/A	Once Shaped, Best To Leave Alone. Wrap Newly Planted Trees With Tree Wrap Or Burlap Until Fall.
Magnolia	Varies	Alternate	Yes	Medium	No	No	Best After Bud Swell	Minimal	Top And Tie Year One	August-September	August To September-Best To Hand Prune	Don't Fertilize Late. Herbicide Sensitive. Protect Bark In Winter.
Standards	Open, Wide-Spreading	Alternate	No	Med-Hard	Best	Yes		Medium To Hard for Shaping	None	N/A	Can Be Sheared To Shape After Flowering	Can Winter Prune.
Metasequoia	Pyramidal, Conical	Alternate	No	Minimal	Yes	Best	Best After Bud Swell	Medium	Don't Touch	September-October	N/A	Best To Remove Every Other Branch Whorl.
Ostrya	Oval To Rounded	Alternate	No	Minimal	No	No	In Leaf	Minimal	If Needed Only	July-August	N/A	Once Shaped, Best To Leave Alone. Can Winter Prune.
Parrotia	Upright, Oval	Alternate	No	Minimal	No	No	Best After Bud Swell	Light	Top And Tie Year One	August-September	N/A	Plant Asap. Does Not Perform In Heavy, Wet Soils.
Platanus	Varies	Alternate	No	Med-Hard	Yes	Best		Medium To Hard	Top And Tie Year One	September-October	August To September-Best To Hand Prune	Fast Growing Tree. Should Be Pruned Prior To Thunderstorm Weather. May Need Several Prunes Per Season Once Established.
Populus	Varies		No	Minimal	Yes	Yes		Medium To Hard	Top And Tie Year One, May Require In Year Two	August-September	July	

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<i>Prunus</i>												
Large leaf Cherry - <i>Kwansan, Yoshino, Accolade</i>	Varies	Alternate	No	Med-Hard	Best	Yes		Hard	Top And Tie Year One	At Planting	August To September-Best To Hand Prune	Fast Growing Trees. May Need Several Prunes Per Season Once Established.
Small leaf Cherry - <i>Autumalis, Okame</i>	Upright Oval To Rounded	Alternate	No	Med-Hard	Best	Yes		Hard	Top And Tie Year One	At Planting	Can Be Sheared After Flowering	Fast Growing Trees. May Need Several Prunes Per Season Once Established.
<i>Plum</i>	Varies	Alternate	No	Med-Hard	Best	Yes		Hard	Top And Tie Year One	At Planting	Can Be Sheared After Flowering	Fast Growing Trees. May Need Several Prunes Per Season Once Established.
<i>Pyrus</i>	Varies	Alternate	No	Med-Hard	Best	Yes		Hard	Top And Tie Year One	At Planting	August To September-Best To Hand Prune	Considered An Invasive Plant In Many States.
<i>Quercus</i>	Varies	Alternate	No	Minimal	No	No	In Leaf	To Balance - Medium	Top And Tie Year One	September-October	September To October-Best To Hand Prune	Do Not Prune In Humid Conditions. Should Be Pruned Prior To Thunderstorm Weather. Can Be Winter Pruned. Compact Soil At Planting For Good Root To Soil Contact.
<i>Robinia</i>	Upright, Oval	Alternate	No	Med-Hard	No	Yes	In Leaf	Hard/Top	Top And Tie Year One	As Needed	September To October-Best To Hand Prune	Fast Growing Trees. May Need Several Prunes Per Season Once Established.
<i>Salix</i>	Varies	Alternate	No	Med-Hard	Best	Yes		Hard	Top And Tie Year One	As Needed	Continual	Fast Growing Trees. Should Be Pruned Prior To Thunderstorm Weather. May Need Several Prunes Per Season Once Established.

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<i>Sorbus</i>	Upright to Rounded			Minimal		No	Initially Remove Blossoms From Terminal	Minimal	Maintain Leader And Remove Blossoms From Terminal	As Needed		
<i>Styrax</i>	Upright, Oval	Alternate	No	Minimal	No	No	In Leaf	Minimal	If Needed Only	August-September	Can Be Sheard After Flowering And Once Established.	Do Not Prune Early. A Bleeder. Consider Pretreating For Ambrosia Beetle.
<i>Syringa reticulata</i>	Varies	Opposite	No	Medium	No	No	In Leaf	Minimal	Top And Tie Year One - Late	Late September	Minimal-Best To Hand Prune.	Can Winter Prune.
<i>Syringa</i> top grafts	Varies	Opposite	No	Minimal	Best	Yes, prune top back 25% before planting		Hard To Shape	N/A	N/A	Can Be Sheard After Flowering And Once Established.	Do Not Like Wet Feet. Add Lime To Soil.
<i>Taxodium</i>	Pyramidal	Alternate	No	Minimal	Yes	Best	Best After Bud Swell	Medium	Don't Touch	September-October	N/A	Best To Remove Every Other Branch Whorl.
<i>Tilia</i>	Varies	Opposite	No	Minimal	No	Best		Hard	Top And Tie Year One	August-September	August-Can Be Sheard	Likes Deep, Moist Soils. Can Prune In Late Winter.
<i>Ulmus</i>												
<i>Americana</i>	Varies	Alternate	No	Minimal	Best	Yes		Hard	Top And Tie Year One	At Planting And As Needed	Continual	Hydrate For 24 Hours Prior To Planting and Plant Asap. Fast Growing Trees that May Need Several Prunes Per Season Once Established.

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Hybrid	Varies	Alternate	No	Minimal	Best	Yes		Hard	Top And Tie Year One	At Planting And As Needed	Continual	Hydrate For 24 Hours Prior To Planting and Plant Asap. These Fast Growing Trees May Need Several Prunes Per Season Once Established. We Suggest Removing Every Other Limb At Planting And Throughout Its Duration In The Field.
<i>Viburnum</i>												
<i>lentago</i>	Upright, Vase Shaped	Opposite	No	Minimal	No	Best		Hard	Top And Tie Year One	August- September	Sept-Oct. Best To Hand Prune	Plant Asap.
standards	Upright	Opposite	No	Minimal	No	No	In Leaf	Minimal	Prune To Shape	N/A	Can Be Sheared To Shape After Flowering	
<i>Zelkova</i>	Upright, Vase Shaped	Alternate	No	Minimal	Best	Yes		Hard	Top And Tie Year One	At Planting And As Needed	Continual	Hydrate For 24 Hours Prior To Planting. These Fast Growing Trees May Need Several Prunes Per Season Once Established. We Suggest Removing Every Other Limb At Planting And Throughout Its Duration In The Field.

This pruning information is based on feedback from growers in the Northeast U.S. Results and timing will vary depending on climate and other conditions.