

## Trees and shrubs for small and medium sized gardens

Tree	Height x Spread after 20 years or at maturity	Foliage & bark	Flowers	Fruit	Other Points of note	Wildlife friendly as recommended by the Wildlife Trust & RSPB
<b>Acer campestre</b> Field Maple	6m x 6m	Tri-foliolate. Good autumn colour	Insignificant, greenish	Twin-winged keys	Round-headed <b>Native species</b>	
<b>Acer platanoides Drummondii</b>	12m x 5m	Cream/green variegated foliage	Greenish yellow		<b>Cultivar of the Norway Maple</b>	
<b>Acer platanoides Royal Red or Crimson King</b>	12m x 5m	Crimson foliage. Red and orange autumn colour	Small bright red-purple in spring	Dark purple-red keys	<b>Cultivar of the Norway Maple</b>	
<b>Acer griseum</b> Paperbark Maple	6m x 3m	Mid green. Good autumn colour Peeling orange bark	Small sulphur yellow pendulous flowers in spring		Needs sheltered position. Slow-growing	
<b>Alnus glutinosa Imperialis</b> Alder	8m x 2.5m	Finely-cut foliage Light green	Catkins 5-10cm long in spring	Small cone-like fruit lasts all winter	Quick growing tree for wet areas <b>Native species</b>	Early nectar bees Seeds eaten by Siskin and Redpoll
<b>Amelanchier lamarckii</b> Snowy Mespilus	7.5m x 6m	Light green. Brilliant red autumn colours	Racemes of white flowers in spring	Small light red fruits in autumn		
<b>Arbutus unedo</b> Strawberry Tree	5m x 5m	Evergreen leathery ovate leaves	Panicles of white urn-shaped flowers spring & early summer	Scarlet strawberry fruits - edible, often on tree with flowers	Very slow growth Sheltered west facing position <b>Native to SW Ireland</b>	
<b>Betulus jacquemontii</b> Silver Birch	12m x 5m	Light green turning yellow in autumn Stunning white bark	Catkins in spring	Small hanging scaly fruits in autumn	May lose leaves in hot, dry summers	
<b>Betulus ermanii</b> Birch	12m x 5m	Large foliage, good autumn colour Orange brown bark changing to creamy white with age	Catkins in spring	Small hanging scaly fruits in autumn	May lose leaves in hot, dry summers	
<b>Betula pendula</b> Silver Birch	12 x 5m	Light green, broad, ovate. Good yellow autumn colour White-stemmed bark as tree ages	Round to oval female catkins	Small hanging scales fruits in autumn	Attractive graceful tree	Small birds, long-tailed tits, siskin, gold and green finches
<b>Caragana arborescens Pendula</b> Siberian Pea Tree	9m x 6m	Finely-cut, strap-like foliage	Pea-shaped yellow flowers in May	Small pods in autumn	Small weeping tree	
<b>Cercis siliquastrum</b> Judas Tree	6m x 6m	Bluish-green kidney-shaped leaves	Bright pink flowers on bare branches in spring	Light grey-green pods 8-10cm long	Full sun to light shade. Tolerates some alkalinity <b>Southern European Native</b>	
<b>Cornus controversa Variegata</b> Wedding Cake Tree	7m x 6m	Green and cream variegated leaves. Green leaved varieties have good autumn colour	Umbels of white flowers spring - early summer	Small white fruits may be produced in hot summers	Full sun or light dappled shade. Tiered structure	
<b>Cornus florida</b>	5m x 5m	Purple green leaves. Good red-orange autumn colour	4-bract white or pink flowers depending on variety	Insignificant	Neutral to acid soil. Prefers full sun	
<b>Cornus kousa</b> Japanese or Chinese Dogwood	3.5m x 4m	Olive-green. very good autumn colour	4 large, creamy-white bracts ageing to pink in spring	Dull red strawberry-like fruits in autumn	Slow to establish - 4 years before flowering	
<b>Cornus mas</b> Cornelian Cherry	8m x 6m	Mid-green leaves. Yellow autumn colour	Small yellow tufted flowers produced in profusion in spring	Red cherry-shaped edible fruits suitable for jam making		
<b>Cornus nuttallii</b> Dogwood	10m x 5m	Long elliptic green leaves. Vivid orange-yellow autumn colour	4-bract white flowers ageing to pink	Insignificant	Any soil	Leaves, moth caterpillars, berries birds
<b>Cornus Venus Hybrid between C. nuttallii and C. kousa</b>	5m x 3.5m	Mid green - good autumn colour	Huge 4-bract white flowers to 15cm across in spring	Large pink strawberry like fruits		

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<b>Corylus avellana &amp; hybrids</b> Hazel, cobnut	6 x 6m	Large round mid green foliage. Golden and purple leaved varieties available	Long yellow male catkins	Edible hazelnuts	Can be pruned or coppiced	Hazel dormouse eats caterpillars and nuts. Supports woodpeckers
<b>Cotoneaster x watereri</b> <i>Several other varieties</i>	6m x 6m	Semi-glossy, deep green leaves which take on a bronze tint in autumn	Huge clusters of pretty small white flowers in June	Bright round glossy red berries in autumn	Evergreen <b>Several species are native</b>	
<b>Craetagus oxyacantha</b> Hawthorn, May	6m x 6m	Deeply lobed green leaves with some yellow tints in autumn	Clusters of pink, white, red single or double flowers depending on variety	Small dull red fruits in autumn	Sharp thorns Musty scent attractive to bees Also several varieties which have good autumn foliage colour <b>European Native</b>	Can support over 300 species of insect. Dormice feed on the flowers. Haws rich in anti-oxidants. Migrating birds feed on the haws
<b>Davidia involucrata</b> Handkerchief Tree	12m x 5m	Large deeply-veined toothed leaves	Small central black flowers flanked by 2 broad pure white leaves acting like petals which attract insects	Small rounded to pear-shaped fruits in autumn	<b>For larger gardens</b> Can take up to 20 years to come into full flower	
<b>Fagus sylvatica Dawyck</b> Beech	10m x 4m	Green leaves but gold in autumn	Small yellow-green flowers in spring		Fastigate - forms imposing column <b>Dawyck's Purple</b> grows to 3m; has upright pyramidal shape & purple red leaves ageing to copper in winter <b>Cultivar of Native/ European Beech</b>	
<b>Ginkgo biloba</b>		Fan-shaped leaves			Deciduous conifer	
<b>Gleditsia triacanthos Sunburst</b>	6-8m	Butter yellow in spring and autumn		Pea-shaped grey green pods	Pretty pinnate leaves	
<b>Gleditsia triacanthos Ruby Lace</b>	5-6m	Ruby red fern like foliage				
<b>Hamamelis mollis</b> Witch Hazel	5m x 6m	Ovate green leaves-good orange-yellow autumn colour	Yellow fragrant spidery flowers in January	Brown seed capsules	Large shrub - small tree in time. Position near house to enjoy winter fragrance	
<b>Ilex aquifolium - many cultivars available with gold, silver or variegated foliage</b> Holly	6.5 x 3.5m	Ovate, mostly spiny leaves. Evergreen	Clusters of small white flowers with prominent stamens in summer	Red, orange or yellow berries on female plants.	NB Male plants produce no berries. Can be pruned or trained to size or shape	Shelter for mistle-thrushes. Food of the holly blue butterfly caterpillar, leaf litter supports hibernating toads, hedgehogs etc.
<b>Laburnum x watereri Vossii</b>	7m x 5m	Long hanging racemes of yellow pea flowers	Yellow flowers in profusion in spring	Pods with black pea-shaped fruits Poisonous		
<b>Liquidambar styraciflua</b> Sweet Gum	16m x 8m	Palmate leaves with 3 - 5 lobes. Excellent orange red autumn colour	Inconspicuous green flowers		For the larger garden. Full sun to light shade	
<b>Liriodendron tulipifera aureomarginata</b> Tulip Tree	10m x 2.5m	Grey green leaves, 3 lobed, central lobe truncated	Fragrant green and yellow tulip shaped flowers. May take 20 years to flower	Dome-shaped calyces	For the larger garden but Aureomarginata much smaller.	
<b>Magnolia grandiflora</b>	8m x 4m	Large elliptic glossy green leaves with felted brown undersides	Creamy - white flowers up to 25cm across in summer and early autumn	Green pods 10cm long after flowering	Can be grown as free-standing tree or trained against a house wall	
<b>Magnolia kobus Leonard Messel</b> Star Magnolia	9m x 8m	Small dark green elliptic leaves, some yellow autumn colour	Fragrant multi-petalled flowers, deep pink in bud opening to lilac		Ideally plant where early morning sun cannot damage the flowers on frosty mornings	

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<b>Magnolia soulangeana</b> Tulip Magnolia	10m x 8m	Large light grey green elliptic leaves	White/pale pink open goblet shaped flowers	Small green seed capsules	Ideally plant where early morning sun cannot damage the flowers on frosty mornings	
<b>Magnolia brooklynensis</b> <b>Yellow Bird</b>	12m x 9m	Elliptic green leaves turn yellow in autumn	Lemon-yellow goblet shaped flowers in April May		Upright conical to pyramidal tree. Slightly alkaline to acid soils. Full sun or part shade	
<b>Malus</b> <b>Purple foliage varieties</b> Crab Apple	8m x 6m but many varieties smaller	Purple red to purple-bronze foliage	Wine red to purple red flowers in profusion in mid spring	Small wine-red fruits in autumn	Many named varieties. Prefers full sun <b>Of garden origin</b>	
<b>Malus</b> <b>Green leaved varieties</b> Crab Apple	8m x 6m but many varieties smaller	Green, ovate, toothed. Some yellow autumn colour.	White, pink-white or bi-coloured flowers in a massed display in spring	Green to yellow green fruits of limited appeal	Many named varieties. Prefers full sun <b>Some varieties of native species</b>	Early nectar and pollen for bees. Fieldfares, Song-thrushes, Blackbird & redwing feed on crab apples
<b>Paulownia tomentosa</b> Foxglove Tree	14m x 7m	Large 3-5 lobed leaves 20-25cm long	Large pyramid-shaped panicles with purple foxglove-like flowers in spring	Oval capsules with winged seeds	For larger gardens. Growth curbed by thin soils - ie over bedrock in Mendips	
<b>Prunus avium</b> Wild cherry	<b>15 x 12m</b>	Light greyish green oval leaves to 12cm long. Good yellow autumn colour	Single white flowers to 4cm across in late spring	Small red-black round fruits late summer - early autumn	<b>Only suitable for larger gardens.</b>	Early pollen and nectar for bees, fruits eaten by blackbirds & song-thrushes
<b>Prunus serrulata Amanogawa</b> Upright Cherry	6m x 2m	Green oval leaves 8cm long, toothed	Large clusters of semidouble pale pink flowers in spring	Insignificant	Fastigate /columnar tree	
<b>Weeping Cherries</b> <b>Eg: Prunus Cheal's Weeping</b>	5m x 8m	Light to mid green, ovate, may be slightly toothed	Single, double, white rose-pink in profusion mid to late spring	Insignificant	NB These cherries can get quite wide	
<b>Prunus serrula Tibetica</b> Tibetan Cherry	7m x 4m	Light green, ovate leaves 5cm long Beautiful shining mahogany bark	Insignificant	Small round black cherries	Position where can enjoy bark in winter	
<b>Early flowering cherries</b> <b>Eg: Prunus serrulata Okame</b>	9m x 7m Okame 6m x 2.5m	Green, ovate, toothed leaves to 10cm long	White, pink or purple pink on bare branches in profusion late winter to early spring	Insignificant	Small bushy tree	
<b>Large flowering cherries</b> <b>Eg: Prunus Kanzan</b>	8m x 8m	Ovate, toothed leaves. Some varieties have coppery-red young foliage and good autumn colour	Dark pink, white, cream, double or single in profusion in late spring	Insignificant	Vase-like habit Prefers full sun to light shade	
<b>Prunus cerasifera Nigra</b> Plum Tree	8m x 5m	Long dark purple to purple black leaves with some flame red autumn colour	Masses of single or double pink or white flowers on bare branches in spring	Small round dark purple to purple black fruits in autumn	Needs full sun to maintain purple foliage colour.	
<b>Prunus padus</b> <b>Bird cherry</b>	12 x 6m	Oval dark green leaves with dull, hairy undersides	Fragrant white racemes of flowers in late spring/early summer	Small, round, bitter black cherries	<b>Suitable for larger gardens.</b> Good spring display	Early pollen and nectar for bees, bitter cherries eaten by blackbirds & song-thrushes
<b>Prunus subhirtella</b> <b>Autumnalis Rosea</b>	7m x 7m	Small, ovate, green but good autumn colour	Pale pink flowers in winter when mild weather allows	Insignificant		

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<b>Prunus spinosa</b> Blackthorn or Sloe	Up to 6m	Broad oval leaves with a serrated edge. Blackish bark & dense stiff spiny branches	Creamy white flowers appear before the leaves in spring	Edible bluish black fruits in autumn which can be used to make sloe gin	Thorny hedging plant. Wood used for walking sticks.	Early nectar and pollen plant for bees. Foliage plant for moth caterpillars and birds nesting.
<b>Pyrus salicifolia pendula</b> Weeping willow-leaved pear	8m x 6m	Narrow lanceolate, silvery leaves	Clusters of white, single, cup-shaped florets	Small inedible pears		
<b>Salix caprea</b> <b>There are other species and cultivars available</b> Goat Willow or Pussy Willow	10m tall	Leaves ovate, downy at first becoming hairless	Catkins short, almost stalkless in March april		<b>All species of Salix need wet/marshy environments and should not be planted close to buildings</b>	Early catkins support bees, moth caterpillars eg sawfly caterpillar, Purple Emperor butterfly
<b>Sambucus nigra</b> <b>Ornamental cultivars with cut leaves or purple foliage</b> Elder	6 x 5m	Green pinnate leaves with 5-7 leaflets	Clusters of white flowers with a musky scent - used for making cordial Purple leaved forms have pink flowers	Shiny black fruits in autumn used for wine making		Berries
<b>Sorbus aucuparia</b> Rowan or Mountain Ash	10m x 5m	Pinnate with 11-15 leaflets. Dark green, good orange-red autumn colours	Clusters of fluffy white flowers in late spring, early summer	Clusters of red fruit enjoyed by birds	Fast growing, may need annual pruning to keep under control in small gardens <b>Native species</b>	
<b>Sorbus cashmiriana</b>	5-6m	Pinnate with 9-11 leaflets. Grey-green with good yellow autumn colour	Hanging clusters of white flowers up to 12cm across in late spring	White/pink berries late autumn	Graceful narrow specimens	
<b>Sorbus hupehensis</b>	10m x 5m	Pinnate, grey-green with 11-17 oblong leaflets	White flower clusters in early summer	Hanging clusters of white, globe-shaped fruits in autumn		
<b>Sorbus Joseph Rock</b>	10m x 5m	Pinnate, 9-11 leaflets, Some yellow-orange tints in autumn	White flower clusters in mid spring to early summer	Hanging clusters of yellow orange fruits in autumn	Pyramidal shape Needs rich deep loam to thrive. Becomes stunted on poor soils	
<b>Sorbus sargentiana</b>	10m x 5m	Pinnate with 11-15 dark green lanceolate leaflets. Spectacular orange to orange red autumn colours	Clusters of fluffy white flowers in late spring, early summer	Red to orange fruits		
<b>Stuartia pseudocamellia</b>	10m x 5m	Ovate, grey-green, slightly toothed turning orange red in autumn	Cup-shaped pure white flowers 5cm across mid-late summer. Incurved petals with jagged margins & silky texture.	Insignificant	Must have an acid soil. Vulnerable to sun scorch	
<b>Styrax japonica</b> Japanese Snowbell	6m x 4m	Hanging white, five-petalled snowdrop-like flowers in early summer	Light green, oval leaves with a grey sheen. Yellow autumn colours	Small oval dark green fruits hanging from undersides of branches in early autumn	Light shade.	
<b>Taxus baccata Fastigiata</b> Yew	8m x 2.5m	Dark green, needle like leaves. Evergreen	Insignificant	Small red berries - highly poisonous if eaten	Slim conical conifer. Slow growing. Full sun, part shade <b>Cultivar of the Irish Yew</b>	

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<b>Fruit Trees</b>						
<b>Apples and Pears - many varieties available</b>	Can be grown as standards, half standards, bush, cordon, step-overs, fan trained	Not significant	Pinkish-white blossom in spring	<b>No apple or pear is completely self compatible so more than one cultivar should be grown</b> Edible apples or pears late summer onwards	Important to select a variety grown on a dwarfing rootstock so that the tree does not grow too big.	
<b>Cherry - Sweet</b>	Usually grown fan-trained on a high wall but can be a standard or half-standard if room	Not significant	Flowers may be susceptible to frost damage	Most sweet cherries are self-compatible. Cherries in late summer	<b>Derived from Prunus avium - see above. Very vigorous - not suitable for small gardens</b>	
<b>Ficus carica - Brown Turkey Figs</b>	Usually grown fan-trained on a wall but can be grown as a small tree	Large, palmate leaves to 25cm long.	Pale green, insignificant. Light green stems spread and arch with age needing support	Large, green skinned fruits becoming purple black and wrinkled when ripe. Two crops pa. but only one ripens in UK Figs will develop without fertilisation so single trees can be grown	Needs a warm sunny position for fruits to ripen.	
<b>Morus nigra Mulberries</b>	8 x 10m	Ovate, lobed or unlobed grey-green coarse leaves. Good yellow autumn colour	Small insignificant catkins in spring	Blackberry shaped, dark-red juicy edible fruits	Wide spreading tree Morus alba, white or silkworm mulberry has more delicate leaves and pale pink fruit which is edible but not tasty	
<b>Peaches, and Nectarines</b>	Can be grown in the open with protection from frost but better grown under glass	Not significant	Blossom develops early and needs to be protected against frost.	Self compatible so single trees can be planted	Need stop be planted in a warm, sunny frost free position. Peach leaf curl is a problem when grown outside	
<b>Plums, Damsons and Gages</b>	5-10m in height. Grown as standards or half standards, bush or fan trained on a wall	Not significant	Blossom in spring	Some cultivars are self-compatible. Edible, many varieties available	Various pests and diseases.	
<b>Main Source: Brian Davis The Gardener's Illustrated Encyclopedia of Trees and Shrubs pub.1987</b>						