

# HOW TO: GARDEN AND URBAN TREES



TREES CAN MAKE A HUGE DIFFERENCE TO HOW OUR URBAN ENVIRONMENT LOOKS FEELS AND FUNCTIONS. CHECK OUT THIS GUIDE AS TO WHY YOU SHOULD PLANT A TREE, THINGS TO CONSIDER WHEN CHOOSING YOUR TREE AND SPECIES SUGGESTIONS.

## WHY PLANT URBAN TREES?

**Increase property values** - Trees increase the kerb appeal of residential areas with research finding that house prices are between 5% and 18% higher where property is associated with mature trees.

**Improve air quality** - Trees, woodland and other green infrastructure improve air quality by intercepting harmful particulates which are a contributing factor to respiratory conditions such as asthma.

**Cool our cities and towns** - Trees lose moisture from their leaves and coupled with the shade they cast and the heat reflected upwards from their leaves significantly reduce temperature in towns.

**Reduce the risk of flooding** - Trees reduce surface water runoff, which can overload drainage systems, and lead to flash flooding by around 60% compared with asphalt alone.

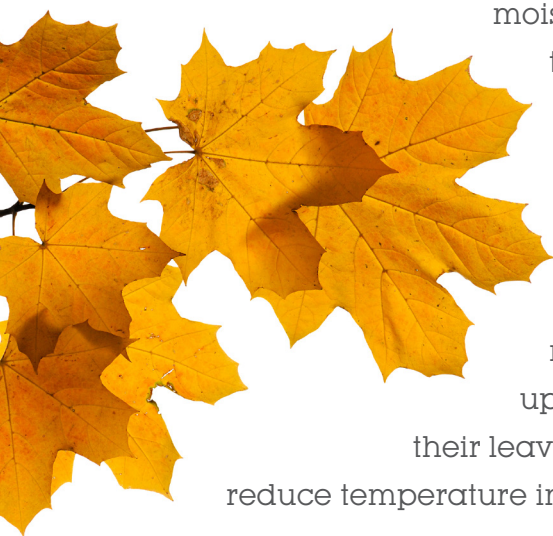
**Create wildlife habitats** - Trees in urban areas provide important habitats for British wildlife encouraging biodiversity, with many species relying on woodland cover to survive.

**Aid health & wellbeing** - Trees help us to breathe easier, and play a significant role in improving our health and well-being, reducing stress and encourage us to be more active.



## THINGS TO CONSIDER WHEN CHOOSING YOUR TREE

Planting a tree can be one of the most rewarding and enduring things we do. It can be done quickly, cheaply and without any specialist tools or materials.



## Things to consider when choosing your tree are:

- The space you have for the height, spread of the tree as well as the roots.
- What characteristics do you want e.g. blossom; evergreen, fruit producing.
- The sunlight, soil and moisture your green space provides.
- The reputation of your local nursery and whether they can provide you with advice and guidance.

## THE RIGHT TREE FOR YOUR GARDEN

There is a huge choice of varieties and sizes available from nurseries; and they should be able to advise you on the type and variety that suits your needs.

### Some popular small garden trees are:

#### 1. **Acer griseum (paperbark maple)** -

A beautiful small tree with bark flaking and curling back to reveal cinnamon-coloured bark beneath. Rich autumn foliage colour.

#### 2. **Crataegus laevigata 'Pauls scarlet'** (hawthorn) -

a small, rounded deciduous thorny tree with lobed, glossy leaves. Flowers fully double, light red.

#### 3. **Betula utilis 'Jaquemontii'** (Himalayan birch)

- a deciduous tree, with brilliant white bark on the trunk and larger branches; ovate leaves turn yellow in autumn; yellow-brown male catkins open in early spring.

#### 4. **Amelanchier × grandiflora**

##### 'Ballerina' AGM -

Profuse white spring flowers before the bronze tinted young leaves emerge. Good autumn leaf tints.

#### 5. **Crataegus persimilis 'Prunifolia' AGM** -

This has white flowers in June followed by masses of showy bright orange-red fruits. Oval deep green leaves colour richly in autumn.

6. **Sorbus 'Joseph Rock' AGM** - This has white flowers in late spring. Pale yellow fruits mature to amber-yellow are complimented by rich autumn foliage colour of red, orange and purple.

Remember your local nursery should be able to tell you how and where your tree was grown; as well any biosecurity precautions they take in preventing the spread of pest and diseases.

## HAPPY TREE PLANTING!

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