



When to Prune **(Deciduous)**

Pruning will *not*...

- ...Contain a plant which is too large for its site or correct spacing problems.**
- ...Slow a plant's growth - in fact it accelerates growth and density.**
- ...Alter the overall form of a plant. If a plant wants to grow in a column you cannot prune it to grow otherwise.**

Spring-flowering trees and shrubs which should be pruned within 30 days after flowering.

Scientific name/ Common name	Scientific name/ Common name
Amelanchier Shadblow	Lindera Spicebush
Berberis Barberry	Lonicera Honeysuckle
Calycanthus Sweetshrub	Magnolia Magnolia
Caragana Peashrub	Malus Crabapple
Celastrus Bittersweet	Philadelphus Mock orange
Cercis Redbud	Pieris Andromeda
Chaenomeles Flowering quince	Prunus Flowering cherry and plum
Chionanthus Fringetree	Pyracantha Firethorn
Cornus florida Flowering dogwood	Rhododendron Rhododendron and Azalea
Cornus kousa Kousa dogwood	Rhodotypos scandens Black jetbead
Cornus mas Cornelian cherry	Ribes Currant
Cotinus coggygia Smoketree	Rosa Climbers and shrub roses
Cotoneaster Cotoneaster	Sorbus Mountain ash
Crataegus Hawthorn	Spiraea thunbergii Thunberg spirea
Deutzia Deutzia	Spiraea x vanhouttei Vanhoutte spirea
Euonymus Winged spindle tree	Styrax japonica Japanese snowball
Forsythia Forsythia	Syringa Lilac
Kalmia latifolia Mountain laurel	Viburnum Viburnum
Kolkwitzia amabilis Beautybush	Weigela Weigela
Laburnum Laburnum	Wisteria Wisteria
Ligustrum Privet	

*Summer-flowering trees and shrubs which should be pruned **before** spring growth begins.*

Scientific name/ Common name

Abelia x grandiflora Glossy abelia
Acanthopanax Aralia
Albizia julibrissin Silk tree
Buddleia davidii Butterflybush
Callicarpa Beautyberry
Hydrangea arborescens Smooth hydrangea
Hydrangea paniculata Pee Gee hydrangea
'Grandiflora'

Scientific name /Common name

Hibiscus syriacus Shrub-althea
Hypericum St. Johnswort
Koelreuteria paniculata Goldenrain tree
Magnolia virginiana Sweet bay
Rhus Sumac
Rosa cvs. Hybrid tea roses
Sorbaria False-spirea
Stewartia Stewartia
Symphoricarpos Snowberry, Coralberry

*Trees and shrubs which may be pruned **both before and after bloom.***

Scientific name / Common name

Cornus sericea Red-osier dogwood
Cotoneaster apiculatus Cranberry cotoneaster
Cotoneaster divaricatus Spreading cotoneaster
Cotoneaster multiflorus Many-flowered cotoneaster
Mahonia aquifolium Oregon hollygrape
Spiraea Spirea
Symphoricarpos albus Snowberry
Symphoricarpos x chenaultii Chenault coralberry
Weigela

COMMON PRUNING MISTAKES

Knowing the common pruning mistakes helps gardeners avoid damaging plants when pruning.

Topping trees and shrubs is a major mistake. It results in a WITCHES' BROOM effect. Never cut all branches back to the same height.

Pruning causes buds to break. If pruning is done late in the growing season, the new shoots do not have adequate time to harden off for winter and dieback is likely.

Painting or putting pruning dressing on pruning cuts is unnecessary and may actually cause harm. Ultraviolet rays in sunlight are nature's disinfectant. The paint or dressing may seal in disease organisms and protect the organisms from the ultraviolet rays.

Making pruning cuts flush to the trunk destroys the tissue in the branch collar or ridge. This is the tissue that grows over the wound, sealing it naturally.