Columnar Douglas Fir

Pseudotsuga menziesii 'Fastigiata'



Columnar Douglas Fir
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Height: 50 feet

Spread: 15 feet

Sunlight:

Hardiness Zone: 4

Description:

An imposing evergreen conifer with a tightly columnar habit and bluish-green needles; ideal for adding a prominent vertical accent to the home landscape; requires moist soil and humid growing conditions, best with some shelter against drying winds

Ornamental Features

Columnar Douglas Fir is primarily valued in the landscape for its rigidly columnar form. It has attractive bluish-green evergreen foliage. The needles are highly ornamental and remain bluish-green throughout the winter.

Landscape Attributes

Columnar Douglas Fir is a dense evergreen tree with a strong central leader and a narrowly upright and columnar growth habit. Its relatively fine texture sets it apart from other landscape plants with less refined foliage.

This is a relatively low maintenance tree. When pruning is necessary, it is recommended to only trim back the new growth of the current season, other than to remove any dieback. Deer don't particularly care for this plant and will usually leave it alone in favor of tastier treats. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Columnar Douglas Fir is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Accent
- Vertical Accent

Planting & Growing

Columnar Douglas Fir will grow to be about 50 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 15 feet. It has a low canopy, and should not be planted underneath power lines. It grows at a medium rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live to a ripe old age of 120 years or more; think of this as a heritage tree for future generations!

This tree should only be grown in full sunlight. It requires an evenly moist well-drained soil for optimal growth, but will die in standing water. It may require supplemental watering during periods of drought or extended heat. It is not particular as to soil type, but has a definite preference for acidic soils. It is somewhat tolerant of urban pollution, and will benefit from being planted in a relatively sheltered location. Consider applying a thick mulch around the root zone in winter to protect it in exposed locations or colder microclimates. This is a selection of a native North American species.