Variegated Japanese Zelkova

Zelkova serrata 'Variegata'



Variegated Japanese Zelkova foliage
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Height: 50 feet

Spread: 30 feet

Sunlight:

Hardiness Zone: 5

Other Names: Japanese Zelkova

Description:

A close relative of the elm, a more compact shade tree with a vase-shaped habit, interesting peeling bark and variegated foliage; low maintenance and trouble-free, an excellent choice for street plantings or landscapes



Variegated Japanese Zelkova
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Ornamental Features

Variegated Japanese Zelkova has attractive creamy white-variegated forest green foliage on a tree with an upright spreading habit of growth. The small serrated pointy leaves are highly ornamental and turn an outstanding harvest gold in the fall.

Landscape Attributes

Variegated Japanese Zelkova is a deciduous tree with an upright spreading habit of growth. Its relatively fine texture sets it apart from other landscape plants with less refined foliage.

This is a relatively low maintenance tree, and is best pruned in late winter once the threat of extreme cold has passed. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Variegated Japanese Zelkova is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Accent
- Shade

Planting & Growing

Variegated Japanese Zelkova will grow to be about 50 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 30 feet. It has a low canopy with a typical clearance of 5 feet from the ground, and should not be planted underneath power lines. It grows at a medium rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for 70 years or more.

This tree should only be grown in full sunlight. It is very adaptable to both dry and moist locations, and should do just fine under average home landscape conditions. It may require supplemental watering during periods of drought or extended heat. It is not particular as to soil type or pH. It is somewhat tolerant of urban pollution. This is a selected variety of a species not originally from North America.