Cork Bark Japanese Black Pine

Pinus thunbergii 'var. corticosa'



Cork Bark Japanese Black Pine
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Height: 5 feet

Spread: 5 feet

Sunlight:

Hardiness Zone: 5

Description:

This variety features cork like, fissured bark at an early age giving the young plant an aged look; a perfect shrub for artistic pruning to create an Asian look in the garden

Ornamental Features

Cork Bark Japanese Black Pine is a dwarf conifer which is primarily valued in the landscape or garden for its interestingly mounded form. It has dark green evergreen foliage. The needles remain dark green throughout the winter. The furrowed dark brown bark is extremely showy and adds significant winter interest.

Landscape Attributes

Cork Bark Japanese Black Pine is a dense multi-stemmed evergreen shrub with a mounded form. Its average texture blends into the landscape, but can be balanced by one or two finer or coarser trees or shrubs for an effective composition.

This shrub will require occasional maintenance and upkeep. When pruning is necessary, it is recommended to only trim back the new growth of the current season, other than to remove any dieback. Gardeners should be aware of the following characteristic(s) that may warrant special consideration;

- Disease

Cork Bark Japanese Black Pine is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Accent
- Rock/Alpine Gardens
- General Garden Use

Planting & Growing

Cork Bark Japanese Black Pine will grow to be about 5 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 5 feet. It tends to fill out right to the ground and therefore doesn't necessarily require facer plants in front, and is suitable for planting under power lines. It grows at a slow rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for 80 years or more.

This shrub should only be grown in full sunlight. It prefers dry to average moisture levels with very well-drained soil, and will often die in standing water. It may require supplemental watering during periods of drought or extended heat. It is not particular as to soil type or pH, and is able to handle environmental salt. It is highly tolerant of urban pollution and will even thrive in inner city environments. This is a selected variety of a species not originally from North America.