













































**TREES FOR SMALL SPACES**  
**University of California Cooperative Extension Master Gardeners of Fresno County**













Select plants suitable for USDA hardiness zone 9 or Sunset hardiness zones 8 or 9. Not all trees listed here belong to these zones.














**EVERGREEN TREES**















NAME	TREE SHAPE	TREE SIZE	GROWTH RATE	WATER NEEDS	POTENTIAL PROBLEMS	COMMENTS
<b>Arborvitae, American</b> <i>Thuja occidentalis</i>		10-20' H 4-6' W	Slow to moderate		Spider mites	Use smaller varieties
<b>Azalea</b> <i>Azalea</i>		4-5' H 3-4' W				Buy as a standard* or train to tree form Filtered sun Various flower colors
<b>Azara, Boxleaf</b> <i>Azara microphylla</i>		12-18' H 8-12' W				Requires staking May be hard to find Needs good drainage Partial to full shade Small yellow fragrant flowers Orange-red berries
<b>Banana Shrub</b> <i>Magnolia figo</i>		8-15' H 5-10' W	Slow			Flowers have strong, fruity fragrance Needs partial shade
<b>Bottlebrush</b> <i>Callistemon spp.</i>	Varies	10-30' H 10-15' W	Fast			Size and shape vary with species
<b>Buckthorn, Italian</b> <i>Rhamnus alaternus</i>		10-20' H 10-20' W	Fast		Seedlings	Easily trained as single- or multiple-trunked tree
<b>Buckthorn, Italian Variegated</b> <i>Rhamnus alaternus</i> 'Variegata'		6-10' H 6-10' W				Train to tree form Full sun or part shade Variegated foliage Black berries
<b>Camellia</b> <i>Camellia japonica</i>		6-12' H 6-12' W	Moderate		Petal blight	Train to tree form Shade Various flower colors

NAME	TREE SHAPE	TREE SIZE	GROWTH RATE	WATER NEEDS	POTENTIAL PROBLEMS	COMMENTS
<b>Camellia</b> <i>Camellia sasanqua</i>		10' H 10' W				Choose upright forms or standards * or train to tree form Shade White, pink or red flowers
<b>Carolina Laurel Cherry</b> <i>Prunus caroliniana</i>		20-30' H 15-25' W	Moderate			Small, spring white flowers
<b>Cherry, Carolina Laurel</b> <i>Prunus caroliniana</i> 'Bright 'n Tight'		8-10' H 6-8' W	Moderate		Fruit and leaf litter Iron deficiency Many volunteer seedlings	Full sun to part shade Small creamy white flowers Small black fruit
<b>Ceanothus 'Ray Hartman'</b> <i>Ceanothus</i> 'Ray Hartman'		10-15' H 10-15' W				Needs good drainage Full sun Blue-purple flowers
<b>Citrus, dwarf</b> <i>Citrus</i>		8-10' H 8-10' W	Slow		Leaf miner, scale, aphids	Frost sensitive
<b>Cypress, Italian</b> <i>Cupressus sempervirens</i> 'Totem' add tiny tower		10-15' H 1-2' W	Slow		Mites Allergenic pollen	Drought-tolerant Cones to 1½"
<b>Fringe Flower</b> <i>Loropetalum chinense</i>		10-15' H 8-12' W	Fast			Prune to shape
<b>Guava, Pineapple</b> <i>Feifoa sellowiana</i>		15-20' H 10-15' W	Fast		Messy fruit	Can be pruned to any shape
<b>Hawthorn, Italian</b> <i>Rhaphiolepis indica</i> 'Majestic Beauty'		20-25' H 8-10' W	Moderate		Fire blight	Spring flowers Can reduce size by shearing
<b>Hawthorne, Indian</b> 'Majestic Beauty' <i>Rhaphiolepis</i> 'Majestic Beauty'		10-20' H 8-10' W				Full sun Fragrant pink flowers Dark berries

















NAME	TREE SHAPE	TREE SIZE	GROWTH RATE	WATER NEEDS	POTENTIAL PROBLEMS	COMMENTS
<b>Holly</b>						
<b>Burford Holly</b> <i>Ilex cornuta 'Burfordii'</i>		15' H 10' W	Slow		Afternoon shade recommended	Burford and Wilson hollies prefer rich, slightly alkaline soil and require a male
<b>Holly, Japanese</b> <i>Ilex crenata 'Sky Pencil'</i>		6' H 10' W			Small white flowers Insignificant dark berries	
<b>Wilson Holly</b> <i>Ilex altaclerensis 'Wilsonii'</i>		15-20'H 10-12'W	Slow		Scale insects	and female plant to produce berries
<b>Yaupon</b> <i>Ilex vomitoria</i>		15-20' H 10-15' W	Slow			Better in alkaline soil than other hollies
<b>Juniper</b>						
<b>Hollywood juniper</b> <i>Juniperus chinensis 'Torulosa'</i>	Irregular	15' H 10' W	Moderate		Root rot, juniper blight Mites, borers	Drought tolerant
<b>Tolleson's juniper</b> <i>Juniperus scopulorum 'Tolleson's'</i>		20' H 10' W	Fast		Root rot, juniper blight Mites, borers	Drought tolerant
<b>Irish juniper</b> <i>Juniperus communis 'Stricta'</i>		12-20' H 3-4' W	Moderate		Root rot, juniper blight, borers	Drought tolerant
<b>Juniper</b> <i>Juniperus scopulorum 'Skyrocket'</i> <i>Juniperus scopulorum 'Blue Arrow'</i>		15-20' H 2-3' W				Little to no pruning Full sun or part shade Full sun Blue-green foliage
<b>Kumquat</b> <i>Citrus</i>		6-15' H 6' W				Edible fruit Full sun White flowers
<b>Laurustinus, Roundleaf</b> <i>Viburnum tinus 'Robustum'</i>		6-12' H 3-6' W				Train to tree form Full sun White flowers

















NAME	TREE SHAPE	TREE SIZE	GROWTH RATE	WATER NEEDS	POTENTIAL PROBLEMS	COMMENTS
<b>Lemon, Improved Meyer</b> <i>Citrus</i>		12' H 15' W				Edible fruit Thorny Full sun White flowers
<b>Lemon, Improved Meyer, Dwarf</b> <i>Citrus</i>		6' H 8' W				Edible fruit Thorny Full sun White flowers
<b>Loquat</b> <i>Eriobotrya japonica</i>		15-30' H 15-30' W	Fast		Fruit and leaf litter Fire blight	Edible fruit
<b>Magnolia, Compact</b> <i>Magnolia grandiflora</i> 'Little Gem'		20-25' H 10-15' W	Slow		Surface roots Mites, scale, aphids	Leaves do not decompose rapidly
<b>Melaluca</b> <i>Melaluca armillaris</i>		15-30' H 15-30' W	Moderate		Prickly leaves	Attractive peeling bark
<b>Oleander</b> <i>Nerium oleander</i>		10-15' H 10-15' W	Fast		All parts poisonous Aphid, scale, gall	Needs frequent pruning to maintain tree shape
<b>Olive</b> <i>Olea europaea</i> 'Little Ollie'		25-30' H 25-30' W	Moderate		Fruit stains Scale, Verticillium wilt, crown gall	Thrives in hot summers Frost sensitive Allergenic pollen
<b>Olive, Little Ollie</b> <i>Olea europaea</i> 'Little Ollie'		12' H 12' W				Nearly fruitless Train to tree form Full sun or part shade Cream flowers
<b>Orange, Washington Navel, Dwarf</b> <i>Citrus</i>		8-12' H 8' W				Edible fruit Full sun White flowers

NAME	TREE SHAPE	TREE SIZE	GROWTH RATE	WATER NEEDS	POTENTIAL PROBLEMS	COMMENTS
<b>Palm</b> Mediterranean <i>Chamaerops humilis</i>		20' H 20' W	Slow			Tolerates poor soil
Windmill, Chinese <i>Trachycarpus fortunei</i>		30' H 10' W	Moderate to fast			Tolerates poor soil
Pindo <i>Butia capitata</i>		10-20' H 10-15' W	Slow			Tolerates poor soil
<b>Photinia, Red Tip</b> <i>Photinia fraseri</i>		10-15' H 10-15' W	Moderate to fast		Leaf drop Sunburn on trunk Borers	Reddish new spring growth Creamy white flowers
<b>Photinia</b> <i>Photinia fraseri</i>		10-15' H 10-15' W				Subject to fire blight Purchase as a standard * or train to tree form Full sun White flowers Red new leaves
<b>Pine, Japanese Black</b> <i>Pinus thunbergii</i>	Various	20' H 10' W	Slow to moderate		Aphids, borers Leaning trunk	Can be shaped Can be grown as bonsai 3" cones
<b>Pittosporum tobira</b>  Tobira		6-15' H 6-15' W	Moderate		Sticky seed and fruit litter Aphids and scale	Creamy-white flowers
<b>Pittosporum, Variegated</b> <i>Pittosporum tobira</i> 'Variegata'		5-10' H 5-10' W				Purchase as a standard * or train to tree form Full sun Yellow flowers
<b>Podocarpus macrophyllus Maki'</b> Yew Pine		15-50' H 6-15' W Patio	Slow to moderate			Easily-shaped Does well in containers
<b>Privet, Texas</b> <i>Ligustrum japonicum</i> 'Texanum'		8-10' H 4-6' W				Train to tree form Full sun White flowers Black berries










NAME	TREE SHAPE	TREE SIZE	GROWTH RATE	WATER NEEDS	POTENTIAL PROBLEMS	COMMENTS
<b>Sago Palm</b> <i>Cycas revoluta</i>		10' H 6' W	Very slow		Sunburn	Is a cycad, not a palm
<b>Silverberry</b> <i>Elaeagnus pungens</i>		10-15' H 10-15' W	Fast		Spiny branches	Gray-green leaves Oval small fruit
<b>Strawberry Tree</b> <i>Arbutus 'Marina'</i>		25-40' H 20-30' W	Slow to moderate		Messy fruit, leaf litter	Drought-tolerant Better garden choice than <i>A. unedo</i>
<b>Strawberry Tree</b> <i>Arbutus unedo</i> 'Oktoberfest'		6-8' H 6-8' W				Needs good drainage Full sun Deep pink flowers
<b>Sumac, African</b> <i>Rhus lancea</i>		20-30' H 25-35' W	Slow		Leaf litter Good drainage essential Allergenic pollen	Heat tolerant Gray-green leaves
<b>Toyon</b> <i>Heteromeles arbutifolia</i>		15-25' H 15-20' W	Moderate		Fire blight Scale, sooty mold	Must be trained as tree
<b>Xylosma</b> <i>Xylosma congestum</i>		12-25' H 12-25' W	Moderate to fast		Scale, spider mites, chlorosis	Semi-deciduous in cold weather
<b>Yew Pine</b> <i>Podocarpus macrophyllus</i> 'Maki'		8-15' H 2-4' W				Little or no pruning Full sun or part shade Bright green foliage












## DECIDUOUS TREES






NAME	TREE SHAPE	TREE SIZE	GROWTH RATE	WATER NEEDS	POTENTIAL PROBLEMS	COMMENTS
<b>Apricot, Flowerling</b> <i>Prunus mume</i>		20' H 20' W Patio	Slow to moderate		Borers	More trouble free than other flowering <i>Prunus</i> Pink or white flowers
<b>Chaste Tree</b> <i>Vitex agnus-castus</i>		6-25' H 6-25' W Patio	Fast		Seeds unsightly Root suckers	Lavender-blue flowers, summer to fall Thrives in summer heat
<b>Cherry, Flowering</b> <i>Prunus serrulata</i>		15-25' H 15-20' W	Moderate		Borers Sunburn	Mahogany red bark Rarely fruits May be short-lived
<b>Chitalpa</b> <i>Chitalpa tashkentensis</i>		20-30' H 20-30' W	Fast		Messy flowers Bark split	Showy flowers all summer
<b>Crabapple</b> <i>Malus sp.</i>		Varies Patio	Moderate		Fire blight Fungal diseases	Spring flowers, fall colors Good lawn tree Prefers cooler climates
<b>Crape Myrtle</b> <i>Lagerstroemia spp.</i>		8-25' H 10-18' W	Slow		Mildew (resistant varieties available) Aphids	Summer bloom Fall color Tolerates summer heat
<i>Lagerstroemia indica</i> 'Catawba'		6-10' H 6-10' W				Train to tree form Full sun Purple flowers Orange-red fall color
'Pink Velour'		10' H 10' W				Train to tree form Full sun Bright pink flowers Yellow-orange fall color
'Seminole'		6-12' H 6-12' W				Train to tree form Full sun Bright pink flowers Red fall color
<i>Lagerstroemia x hybrid</i> 'Acoma'		10' H 11' W				Train to tree form Full sun

NAME	TREE SHAPE	TREE SIZE	GROWTH RATE	WATER NEEDS	POTENTIAL PROBLEMS	COMMENTS
<b>Crape Myrtle (cont.)</b>						
'Twilight'		10-12' H 12-15' W				Train to tree form Full sun Bright purple flowers Orange-red fall color
'Zuni'		9' H 8' W				Train to tree form Full sun Lavender flowers Orange-red fall color
<b>Desert Willow</b> <i>Chilopsis linearis</i>		25' H 10-20' W	Fast when young		Heavy crop of seedpods	Trumpet-shaped flowers spring-fall Shaggy bark, gnarled trunk
<b>Dogwood</b>						
<i>Cornus florida</i> (white) <i>C. florida</i> 'Rubra' (pink)		15-20' H 15-25' W	Slow to moderate		Needs some shade, wind protection Well-drained soil	Needs acid soil Spring flowers Fall color
<i>Cornus kousa</i>		20-30' H 15-20' W	Slow		Needs some shade, wind protection Well-drained soil	Needs acid soil Spring flowers Fall color
<b>Fringe Tree, Chinese</b> <i>Chionanthus retusus</i>		20' H 20' W	Slow		Berries Allergenic pollen	White, fragrant flower clusters, purple berries Fall color
<b>Hibiscus, Blue</b> <i>Alyogyne huegelii</i>		4-8' H 4-8' W	Fast		Aphids	Frost sensitive
<b>Hibiscus, Blue</b> <i>Alyogyne huegelii</i>		6-10' H 6-10' W				Hardy to 25 degrees Buy as a standard * or train to tree form Full sun Blue flowers
<b>Magnolia, Deciduous</b>						
Saucer Magnolia <i>Magnolia soulangeana</i>		25' H 25' W	Moderate		Leaf and pod litter	Early spring-flowering
Star Magnolia <i>Magnolia stellata</i>		10' H 20' W Patio	Slow			Early spring-flowering



NAME	TREE SHAPE	TREE SIZE	GROWTH RATE	WATER NEEDS	POTENTIAL PROBLEMS	COMMENTS
<b>Maidenhair Tree</b> <i>Ginkgo biloba</i>		35-50' H 20' W	Slow		Female produces smelly, messy fruit, select named (male) cultivars	Attractive leaf shape Fall color
<b>Maple, Japanese</b> <i>Acer palmatum</i>		25' H 15-25' W Patio, varies	Slow		Needs some sun protection	Colorful foliage Fall color
<b>Maple, Japanese</b> <i>Acer palmatum</i>		5-15' H 5-15' W				Prune to graceful forms Select smaller varieties Shade Red new leaves Red, orange or yellow fall color
<b>Nectarine, Dwarf</b> <i>Prunus persica nucipersica, dwarf</i>		5-6' H 5-6' W				Edible fruit Subject to brown rot and peach leaf curl Full sun Pink, white or red flowers
<b>Peach, Dwarf</b> <i>Prunus persica, dwarf</i>		5-6' H 5-6' W				Edible fruit Subject to brown rot and peach leaf curl Full sun Mostly pink, some white or red flowers
<b>Plum, Flowering</b> <i>Prunus cerasifera</i>		10-40' H 12-35' W	Moderate to fast		Borers Fruit drop	Near fruitless forms available Red or purple leaves

NAME	TREE SHAPE	TREE SIZE	GROWTH RATE	WATER NEEDS	POTENTIAL PROBLEMS	COMMENTS
<b>Pomegranate</b>						
<i>Punica granatum</i> 'Toyosho'		8-10' H 8-10' W				Fruitless or fruit is inedible Train to tree form Thorny Full sun Light orange flowers
'Fleishman'		6-15' H 6-15' W				Edible fruit Train to tree form Thorny Full sun Orange flowers Bright orange-red fruit
'Nochi Shibari'		8-10' H 8-10' W				Fruitless or fruit is inedible Thorny Full sun Double dark red flowers
<b>Potato Bush, Purple</b> <i>Solanum rantonnetii</i>		8-12' H 6-10' W				Purchase as a standard * or train to tree form Full sun or part shade Purple flowers
<b>Redbud, Chinese</b>						
<i>Cercis chinensis</i> species		10-12' H 10' W				Seed pods Full sun Magenta flowers
'Don Egolf'		9' H 9' W				Seedless Full sun Dark red flowers
<b>Redbud, Western</b> <i>Cercis occidentalis</i>		10-18' H 10-18' W				Train to tree form Full sun Magenta flowers
<b>Redbud</b> Eastern <i>Cercis canadensis</i>		25-35' H 25-30' W	Moderate		Seed pods Verticillium wilt	Early spring flowers "Oaklahoma best suited for the Central Valley
<b>Western</b> <i>Cercis occidentalis</i>		10-18' H 10-18' W Patio	Moderate		Seed pods Verticillium wilt Suckers	Very drought-tolerant

NAME	TREE SHAPE	TREE SIZE	GROWTH RATE	WATER NEEDS	POTENTIAL PROBLEMS	COMMENTS
<b>Rose of Sharon</b> <i>Hibiscus syriacus</i>		10-12' H 6' W				Train to tree form Full sun Various flower colors
<b>Rose of Sharon</b> <i>Hibiscus syriacus</i>		8-12' H 6-10' W	Moderate			Flower best with adequate water
<b>Smoke Tree</b> <i>Cotinus coggygria</i> 'Purpurea'		12-15' H 12-15' W Patio	Slow			Colorful foliage Thrives in poor conditions

The UCCE Master Gardeners can be reached at:

UC Center

550 East Shaw, Suite 210-B

Fresno CA 93710

559-241-7515

<https://ucanr.edu/sites/mgfresno/>

\* "Standard" refers to a plant that has been grafted or trained to a tree form

Many plants on this list are shrubs that can be trained into a small multi-trunk or single trunk tree by selectively removing some lower branches as illustrated here:

