Weeping Fig

Ficus benjamina



Weeping Fig
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Height: 25 feet

Spread: 25 feet

Sunlight: ○ ◐

Hardiness Zone: 10b

Other Names: Benjamin's Fig, Ficas Tree

Description:

An attractive accent tree producing greenish-yellow fruit in fall; attracts birds; prune in late winter to maintain size and shape; moving plant will cause leaf drop but it will recover; water regularly and keep in warm temperatures

Ornamental Features

Weeping Fig has attractive dark green deciduous foliage which emerges chartreuse in spring on a tree with a round habit of growth. The glossy oval leaves are highly ornamental but do not develop any appreciable fall colour. The fruits are showy chartreuse pomes displayed in mid fall. The fruit can be messy if allowed to drop on the lawn or walkways, and may require occasional clean-up.



Weeping Fig foliage
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Landscape Attributes

Weeping Fig is a multi-stemmed deciduous tree with a more or less rounded 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 is a high maintenance tree that will require regular care and upkeep, and is best pruned in late winter once the threat of extreme cold has passed. It is a good choice for attracting birds to your yard, but is not particularly attractive to deer who tend to leave it alone in favor of tastier treats. It has no significant negative characteristics.

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Weeping Fig is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Accent
- Hedges/Screening
- General Garden Use
- Container Planting



Weeping Fig bark
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Planting & Growing

Weeping Fig will grow to be about 25 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 25 feet. It has a low canopy with a typical clearance of 1 foot from the ground, and is suitable for planting under power lines. It grows at a medium rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for 50 years or more.

This tree does best in full sun to partial shade. It does best in average to evenly moist conditions, but will not tolerate standing water. It is not particular as to soil type or pH. It is highly tolerant of urban pollution and will even thrive in inner city environments. Consider applying a thick mulch around the root zone in winter to protect it in exposed locations or colder microclimates. This species is not originally from North America.

Weeping Fig is a fine choice for the yard, but it is also a good selection for planting in outdoor pots and containers. Because of its height, it is often used as a 'thriller' in the 'spiller-thriller-filler' container combination; plant it near the center of the pot, surrounded by smaller plants and those that spill over the edges. It is even sizeable enough that it can be grown alone in a suitable container. Note that when grown in a container, it may not perform exactly as indicated on the tag - this is to be expected. Also note that when growing plants in outdoor containers and baskets, they may require more frequent waterings than they would in the yard or garden. Be aware that in our climate, this plant may be too tender to survive the winter if left outdoors in a container. Contact our experts for more information on how to protect it over the winter months.

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