Austrian Pine

Pinus nigra

Height: 60 feet

Spread: 40 feet

Sunlight: ○

Hardiness Zone: 3b

Description:

An imposing tall evergreen, with long, dense deep green needles and an upright spreading habit of growth, keeps its lower branches into maturity; tough and hardy, good on poor soils or dry sites but highly adaptable; becomes very picturesque with age

Ornamental Features

Austrian Pine is primarily valued in the landscape for its distinctively pyramidal habit of growth. It has dark green evergreen foliage. The needles remain dark green throughout the winter. The furrowed brown bark is extremely showy and adds significant winter interest.

Landscape Attributes

Austrian Pine is a dense evergreen tree with a strong central leader and a distinctive and refined pyramidal 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 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.

Austrian Pine is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Accent
- Shade
- Windbreaks and Shelterbelts



Austrian Pine
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder



Austrian Pine bark
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

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Planting & Growing

Austrian Pine will grow to be about 60 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 40 feet. It has a low canopy with a typical clearance of 4 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 80 years or more.

This tree should only be grown in full sunlight. It is very adaptable to both dry and moist growing conditions, but will not tolerate any standing water. It is considered to be drought-tolerant, and thus makes an ideal choice for xeriscaping or the moisture-conserving landscape. 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 species is not originally from North America.