



Carpinus betulus



Height	15 - 20 m
Crown	broad ovoid, later rounded, dark, dense crown, capricious growing
Bark and branches	bark grey and smooth, twigs grey-brown with short hairs
Leaf	ovoid, bright green, 6 - 10 cm
Autumn colour	yellow
Flowers	catkins approx. 4.5 cm, catkins approx. 3 cm, unremarkable, April/Ma
Fruits	ovoid, small ribbed nut, in separate fruit clusters
Spines/thorns	None
Toxicity	usually not toxic to people, (large) pets and livestock
Soil type	makes few demands as regards soil, preference for loamy ground
Soil moisture	suitable for dry soil, suitable for wet soil, withstand short flood
Paving	tolerates no paving
Winter hardiness zone	5a (-28,8 to -26,1 °C)
Wind resistance	good
Other resistances	resistant to frost (WH 1 - 6), can withstand wind
Application	avenues and broad streets, parks, squares, tree containers, cemeteries, industrial areas, large gardens, windbreaks
Origin	Europe, Asia Minor

A fairly slow growing and densely branched tree, conical when young, later growing to ovoid or rounded. Adult trees attain a width of 10 m and a height of 15 - 20 m. The branches start to hang down as the tree ages. Young twigs are grey-brown: older branches and the trunk are dark grey and remarkably smooth. The leaves are a fresh green colour in the spring. The leaf has a sharply double serrated edge and the leaf top tapers to a point. In the autumn the leaves turn colour to a golden yellow. If the hornbeam is pruned annually the dry brown leaves generally remain on the tree until well into the winter. The small nutlets hang in decorative separate fruit clusters. Root growth is relatively close to the surface. The rotted leaves are good soil improvers. A hornbeam can easily reach an age of 200 years. If Carpinus betulus is given sufficient room it forms a broad crown up to a height of twenty metres at a later age.