

Pruning Guide for Shrubs



These are general guidelines for the best time to prune. Feel free to contact our garden center for more specific pruning information.

Deciduous

- Azalea / *Rhododendron* - After flowering
- Barberry / *Berberis* - Anytime
- Beautyberry / *Callicarpa* - Late winter, Early spring
- Burning Bush / *Euonymus alatus* - Late winter, Early spring // Renewal pruning early spring
- Butterfly Bush / *Buddleia* - Early spring to 6" if necessary
- Chokeberry / *Aronia* - After flowering
- Cistena Plum / *Prunus x cistena* - After flowering
- Cotoneaster / *Cotoneaster* - After flowering
- Crape Myrtle / *Lagerstroemia* - Late winter, Early spring
- Dappled Willow / *Salix integra* - Early winter // Renewal pruning in winter
- Dogwood / *Cornus* - Late winter
- Elderberry / *Sambucus* - After flowering
- Exbury Azalea / *Rhododendron* - After flowering
- Forsythia / *Forsythia* - After flowering // Renewal pruning while dormant
- Fothergilla / *Fothergilla* - After flowering
- Hydrangea - Bigleaf / *Hydrangea macrophylla* - After flowering if necessary
- Hydrangea - Oakleaf / *Hydrangea quercifolia* - After flowering if necessary
- Hydrangea - Panicle / *Hydrangea paniculata* - Late winter, Early spring
- Hydrangea - Smooth / *Hydrangea arborescens* - Late winter, Early spring
- Lilac / *Syringa* - After flowering
- Ninebark / *Physocarpus* - Late winter, Early spring
- Quince / *Chaenomeles* - After flowering
- Rose of Sharon / *Hibiscus syriacus* - Late winter, Early spring
- Shrub Rose / *Rosa* - Late winter, Early spring
- Slender Deutzia / *Deutzia* - After flowering
- Spirea / *Spiraea* - After flowering // Renewal pruning in winter
- St. John's Wort / *Hypericum* - Late winter, Early spring

Deciduous (cont.)

Summersweet / *Clethra* - Early spring

Sweetspire / *Itea* - After flowering

Viburnum / *Viburnum dentatum* - After flowering, no more than 1/3

Weigela / *Weigela* - After flowering // Renewal pruning while dormant

Winterberry Holly / *Ilex verticillata* - Late winter, Early spring

Evergreen

Bayberry / *Myrica* - Late winter, Early spring

Boxwood / *Buxus* - Winter through July

Bird's Nest Spruce / *Picea abies* - Late winter, Early spring if necessary

Blue Star Juniper / *Juniperus squamata* - Early spring

Euonymus / *Euonymus* - Early spring

Globe Arborvitae / *Thuja occidentalis* - Late winter, Early spring

Globe Blue Spruce / *Picea pungens* - New growth in spring

Gold Thread Cypress / *Chamaecyparis pisifera* - spring

Heavenly Bamboo / *Nandina* - Late winter, Early spring

Holly (China & Blue) / *Ilex x meserveae* - Winter

Holly (Inkberry) / *Ilex glabra* - Early summer

Holly (Sky Pencil) / *Ilex crenata* - Winter

Japanese Garden Juniper / *Juniperus procumbens* - Early spring

Laurel / *Prunus laurocerasus* - After flowering

Lily of the Valley / *Piers japonica* - After flowering

Mugo Pine / *Pinus mugo* - Spring on new growth

Pyracantha / *Pyracantha* - Anytime // Renewal pruning in winter

Rug Juniper / *Juniperus horizontalis* - Early spring

Siberian Cypress / *Microbiota decussata* - Early spring

Viburnum / *Viburnum* - After flowering

Yew / *Taxus* - Late winter, Early spring