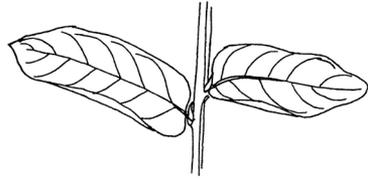


Leaf Identification & Color Code Chart



Norway Spruce
(*Picea abies*)
No Paint



Crapemyrtle
(*Lagerstroemia indica*)
Red Bag

Norway spruce has a pyramidal form reaching up to 60' in height with a spread of 25'-30'. The young branches grow upward, and as the tree matures, the lower branches droop and all branches assume a slight upward sweep. Secondary branches give it a graceful appearance. The stiff, dark green needles are retained on the tree for several years before dropping. The cones are formed at about age 30 and are 4"-6" long. The seeds and tender foliage are eaten by birds and animals, and the lower drooping branches offer protective cover for larger mammals.

Norway spruce can be planted in a wide variety of sites but prefers full or partial sun, and acidic sand, loam, or clay soil that is moist and well-drained. Recommended windbreak spacing is 6'-13' between trees and 16'-25' between rows. For a hedge, shear the new shoots while the year's growth is still soft. Tiny buds on the branches will respond with growth that becomes quite dense. This spruce has a medium growth rate.

Crapemyrtle is a medium-sized shrub or small tree reaching 15'-20' tall with a 6'-15' spread. It is multi-stemmed with dense branching, but can be pruned to a single trunk.

The glossy leaves are medium to dark green in summer, changing to yellow, orange, and red in fall. The striking flowers hang in 6"-8" panicles and have wrinkled petals like crepe paper, which range in color from white to pink to purple to deep red. They bloom from late spring and summer into fall and are followed by small clusters of red-brown berries. Butterflies and birds are attracted to this shrub.

Crapemyrtle adapts to a wide range of soil textures, dry to moist soil, acidic to slightly alkaline, and full sun to light shade. Once established, it is very drought-resistant. Plant 3'-6' apart for hedge. New growth can be pinched to increase flower number. The lower branches are often thinned to show off the trunk form and color. Because pruning can directly affect cold hardiness, try to have it completed by early August. This shrub has a fast growth rate.