

**Trees for Shade**  
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Trees allow home owners to enjoy shade, autumn colors and birds. Colorado's unique climate of intense sunlight, extremes in temperatures, high winds, low rainfall and often lack of abundant snowfall necessitate thoughtful tree selection. The soils many homeowners inherit frequently have been compacted and drain poorly.

Consider the full grown height and width of a tree before planting. The natural tendency in a new landscape is to choose fast-growing trees for quick shade. While this gives a short-term benefit, fast growing trees are often soft wooded and break during storms. They are often more subject to insect and disease problems.

Fast growing trees include Silver Maple, Lombardy Poplar, Cottonwood and Siberian Elm. Slower growing trees are much better choices for long-term landscape.

Consider planting large shade trees such as Bur Oak, English Oak, American or Western Catalpa, Kentucky Coffee Tree and Common Thornless Honeylocust. Some larger evergreen trees include Colorado Spruce, White Fir and Austrian Pine. Medium size trees include Turkish Filbert, Ohio Buckeye, Panicle Golden Rain Tree and several clones of Callery Pear. Smaller deciduous trees include Gambel Oak, Serviceberry, Tatarian Maple, Thornless Cockspur Hawthorn and European Mountain Ash. Smaller evergreen trees include Mugo Pine, Pinyon Pine and Bristlecone Pine.

Remember planting a tree is a long term investment and can provide shade and enjoyment for many years. Plant a tree for today and tomorrow.