Straight & Narrow® Japanese Holly

Ilex crenata 'PIIIC-I'



Straight & Narrow Japanese Holly
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Height: 7 feet

Spread: 30 inches

Sunlight: ○ ◐

Hardiness Zone: 6a

Other Names: Boxleaf Holly

Description:

This selection lives up to its name, with an upright and narrow habit of growth, and branches that won't splay out; multiple plants in a row create a perfect privacy screen; also a wonderful garden or border accent; small leaves give it a fine texture

Ornamental Features

Straight & Narrow Japanese Holly is primarily valued in the landscape or garden for its rigidly columnar form. It has dark green evergreen foliage. The small glossy oval leaves remain dark green throughout the winter.

Landscape Attributes

Straight & Narrow Japanese Holly is a dense multi-stemmed evergreen shrub with a narrowly upright and columnar growth habit. Its relatively fine texture sets it apart from other landscape plants with less refined foliage.

This shrub will require occasional maintenance and upkeep, and is best pruned in late winter once the threat of extreme cold has passed. It is a good choice for attracting birds to your yard. Gardeners should be aware of the following characteristic(s) that may warrant special consideration;

- Insects
- Disease

Straight & Narrow Japanese Holly is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Accent
- Vertical Accent
- Hedges/Screening
- General Garden Use

Planting & Growing

Straight & Narrow Japanese Holly will grow to be about 7 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 30 inches. It tends to fill out right to the ground and therefore doesn't necessarily require facer plants in front, and is suitable for planting under power lines. It grows at a slow rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for 40 years or more.

This shrub does best in full sun to partial shade. It prefers to grow in average to moist conditions, and shouldn't be allowed to dry out. It may require supplemental watering during periods of drought or extended heat. It is very fussy about its soil conditions and must have rich, acidic soils to ensure success, and is subject to chlorosis (yellowing) of the foliage in alkaline soils. It is highly tolerant of urban pollution and will even thrive in inner city environments. Consider applying a thick mulch around the root zone in winter to protect it in exposed locations or colder microclimates. This is a selected variety of a species not originally from North America.