Variegated Hiba Arborvitae

Thujopsis dolabrata 'Variegata'



Variegated Hiba Arborvitae foliage
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Height: 20 feet

Spread: 12 feet

Sunlight: ○ ◐

Hardiness Zone: 5a

Description:

A close relative to the North American white cedar (arborvitae) with an upright pyramidal habit of growth; spectacular dark green foliage is splashed with creamy white variegation; does well in shade but needs shelter and a moist environment

Ornamental Features

Variegated Hiba Arborvitae is primarily valued in the landscape for its distinctively pyramidal habit of growth. It has attractive white-variegated dark green foliage with hints of creamy white. The scale-like sprays of foliage are highly ornamental and remain dark green throughout the winter.



Variegated Hiba Arborvitae
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Landscape Attributes

Variegated Hiba Arborvitae is a dense evergreen tree with a strong central leader and a distinctive and refined pyramidal form. Its relatively fine texture sets it apart from other landscape plants with less refined foliage.

This is a relatively low maintenance tree. When pruning is necessary, it is recommended to only trim back the new growth of the current season, other than to remove any dieback. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Variegated Hiba Arborvitae is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Accent
- Vertical Accent
- Hedges/Screening

Planting & Growing

Variegated Hiba Arborvitae will grow to be about 20 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 12 feet. It has a low canopy with a typical clearance of 1 foot from the ground, and is suitable for planting under power lines. It grows at a slow rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for 80 years or more.

This tree does best in full sun to partial shade. It requires an evenly moist well-drained soil for optimal growth. It may require supplemental watering during periods of drought or extended heat. It is particular about its soil conditions, with a strong preference for rich, acidic soils. It is somewhat tolerant of urban pollution, and will benefit from being planted in a relatively sheltered location. 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.



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