

Paper Birch



White birch is a tall deciduous tree, growing to a mature height of 20 to 40 ft. with a spread up to 20 ft. It has an annual growth rate of 4 to 18 in., living 15 to 50 years.

Older bark has good ornamental value. It is white, papery, peeling in thin sheets after 4 to 6 years. The inner bark is reddish-orange, turning black with age.

Plant white birch in full sun only; will not tolerate full shade.

It has a wide soil adaptation, tolerating acid sites, but does best on well-drained sandy or silty-loam soils with adequate moisture. Does poorly on dry sites. Needs some protection from winds.

When planting a shelterbelt White Birch should be planted 3 to 10 ft. between trees in the row and 17 to 26 ft. between rows.