

# Trees in Winter Identification Cards



## Key Characteristics

1. Silhouette: shape
2. Bark: color and structure
3. Clues: leaves, nuts, fruit

### Hints:

- **Look up** for opposite branches
- **Look down** for dead leaves, nuts, and fruit

### Contact Us

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## American Beech *Fagus americana*

**Silhouette:** Sphere

**Bark:** Smooth, steel grey

**Clues:** Long oval toothed leaves, spiky triangular fruit

Image Source:

<https://tidcf.nrcan.gc.ca/en/trees/factsheet/25>





## Eastern White Pine

*Pinus strobus*

**Silhouette:** Uneven lobes

**Bark:** Smooth while young, grey-brown

**Clues:** Soft needles in groups of 5, pine cones

Image source:

<https://tidcf.nrcan.gc.ca/en/trees/factsheet/50>



## White Spruce

*Picea glauca*

**Silhouette:** Tall pyramid

**Bark:** Ash brown, circular, flaky

**Clues:** 4-sided needles

Image source:

<https://tidcf.nrcan.gc.ca/en/trees/factsheet/38>





**White Cedar**  
*Thuja occidentalis*

**Silhouette:** Rounded pyramid

**Bark:** Grey-red, ridges, straight lines

**Clues:** Cones, needles

Image source:

<https://gobotany.nativeplanttrust.org/species/thuja/occidentalis/>



**Balsam Fir**  
*Abies balsamea*

**Silhouette:** Tall, thin pyramid

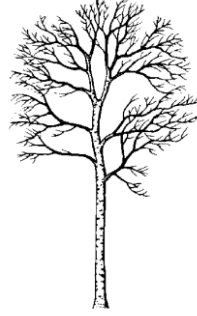
**Bark:** Red-brown, scaly

**Clue:** Resin bubbles

Image source:

<https://tidcf.nrcan.gc.ca/en/trees/factsheet/80>





## **White Oak** *Quercus alba*

**Silhouette:** Half circle

**Bark:** Pale grey thin  
irregular scales

**Clue:** Acorns with  
leathery shells with  
abrupt point at end

Image source:

<https://tidcf.nrcan.gc.ca/en/trees/factsheet/63>

<http://www.acer-acre.ca/s?Quercusalba>



## **Paper Birch** *Betula papyrifera*

**Silhouette:** Ball-shaped

**Bark:** Smooth reddish  
brown when young, later  
chalky white, peeling

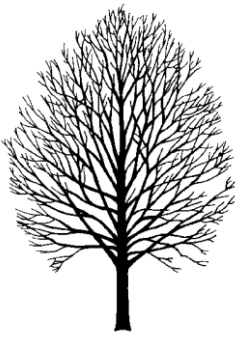
**Clue:** Twig tastes like  
wintergreen

Image source:

<https://tidcf.nrcan.gc.ca/en/trees/factsheet/>

[406](https://tidcf.nrcan.gc.ca/en/trees/factsheet/406)





**Sugar Maple**  
*Acer saccharum*

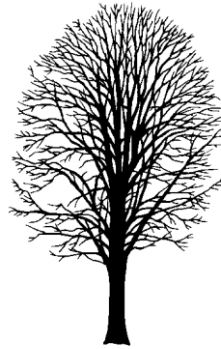
**Silhouette:** Rounded pyramid

**Bark:** Smooth grey-brown when young, later flat ridges loose on one side

**Clue:** Seed keys, leaves with 5-pointed lobes

Image source:

[https://www.illinoiswildflowers.info/trees/plants/sugar\\_maple.html](https://www.illinoiswildflowers.info/trees/plants/sugar_maple.html)



**Basswood**  
*Tilia americana*

**Silhouette:** Pyramid

**Bark:** Light green-brown while young, later dark grey-brown; multi-stems

**Clues:** Large heart-shaped leaves, small ball fruits on a wing/bract

Image Source:

<https://tidcf.nrcan.gc.ca/en/trees/factsheet/74>

