Town & Country gardens

Columnar Mugo Pine

Pinus mugo 'Columnaris'



Columnar Mugo Pine
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Height: 10 feet

Spread: 4 feet

Sunlight: ○

Hardiness Zone: 2

Other Names: Mugho Pine, Swiss Mountain Pine

Description:

A very narrow upright mugo pine, perfect for tight landscape spaces where a strong vertical accent is desired; compact columnar habit is open enough to reveal reddish orange bark; produces small ornamental cones as well

Ornamental Features

Columnar Mugo Pine is a dwarf conifer which is primarily valued in the landscape or garden for its rigidly columnar form. It has emerald green evergreen foliage. The needles remain emerald green throughout the winter.



Columnar Mugo Pine foliage
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Landscape Attributes

Columnar Mugo Pine 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 is a relatively low maintenance shrub. 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.

Columnar Mugo Pine is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Accent
- Vertical Accent
- Hedges/Screening

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Planting & Growing

Columnar Mugo Pine will grow to be about 10 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 4 feet. 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 50 years or more.

This shrub should only be grown in full sunlight. It prefers dry to average moisture levels with very well-drained soil, and will often die in standing water. It is considered to be drought-tolerant, and thus makes an ideal choice for xeriscaping or the moisture-conserving landscape. It is not particular as to soil type or pH, and is able to handle environmental salt. It is highly tolerant of urban pollution and will even thrive in inner city environments. This is a selected variety of a species not originally from North America.



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