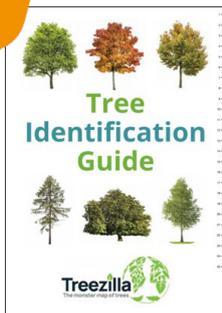# Tree identification resources

As a Tree Warden, tree identification is a core skill which can take many years to refine. Recognising different tree species is usually best learnt in the field at first in the company of an expert. Seek out opportunities for guided walks or training workshops taking place near you. If you are just starting out on your own, it's a good idea to get to know the trees in your local area first. Look out for them on your daily walk or commute and take the time to look up their leaves, bark, flowers or form in a tree ID book or use an online resource. You will soon start to recognise them and enjoy the changes they experience throughout the season. Here are some resources which may help.

Some useful free online resources

1

The Treezilla Tree Identification Guide uses leaves as the principal means by which to identify a tree, so it will work best when the tree is in leaf. During the winter, you may find fallen leaves you can use.

treezilla.org/resources

2

Pl@ntNet is an app that allows you to identify plants simply by photographing them with your smartphone. It uses artificial intelligence to guess the plant species based on its database of images.

plantnet.org

3

iSpot is a citizen science platform for biodiversity aimed at helping anyone identify anything in nature. A large community of experts will help you identify trees based on your photos.

ispotnature.org

4

The Woodland Trust Tree ID app allows you to identify native and non-native trees in the UK in just a few steps whatever the season, using bark, leaves, twigs, buds, flowers or fruit.
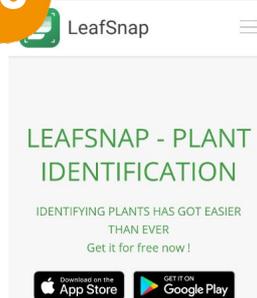
bit.ly/woodland-trust-ID

5

The Natural History Museum tree identification key is an online resource helping you identify types of trees found in gardens and urban areas.

bit.ly/NHM-tree-identification

6

LeafSnap is an app that enables you to take a photo of a singular part of a tree. It will then analyse the picture and offer you a few results based on how well it matches the existing tree species in the database.

plantidentifier.info

Some useful printed publications:

- *Tree Guide: The most complete field guide to the trees of Britain and Europe* by Owen Johnson and David More
- *Trees in Britain, Europe and North America* by Roger Phillips and Sheila Grant
- *What's that tree?* by Dorling Kindersley
- *Concise Tree Guide* by The Wildlife Trusts