

ORNAMENTAL WEEPING CHERRY

Prunus Pendula

Weeping Cherries are some of the most beautiful ornamental trees. Their size makes them an ideal choice for smaller landscapes. The display of blooms appears in spring before the leaves appear. They offer multiple seasons of interest with pastel flowers, rich green foliage, fall color and interesting bark.

VARIETIES

The **Weeping Higan Cherry** (*Prunus x subhirtella* 'Pendula') has large magenta buds which open to double pink flowers in groups of 2-5 blooms. Branches gently ascend before cascading downwards. The umbrella -like effect is beautiful. The tree will reach a mature height of 20-25 ft.

Pink Cascade grows to 12 ft in height. Its dark red branches weep elegantly towards the ground. It has smooth gray bark. Its diminutive size makes it a great specimen to plant near a patio.

Snow Fountains have pure white blossoms, as the name suggests. Its compact form matures to a height of 8-15 ft.

PLANTING

Ornamental Weeping Cherries are best grown in **full sun**, which is defined as a minimum of 6 hours of direct, unfiltered sunlight.

While they can grow in partly shady conditions, they will not flower as well. Plant in fertile, well-drained soil. See our planting guide for details.

FERTILIZING

In its second year, when the tree begins to leaf out, you can feed the tree with a slow-release organic fertilizer, such as **Espoma Plant-Tone** in spring and fall.

PRUNING

A mature tree can be pruned to maintain its size or thin its canopy. To maintain next year's flowering display, **prune weeping cherries in late spring or early summer** when the tree has finished flowering. However, any dead or diseased branches should be removed as soon as you notice them. Be careful and thoughtful about your pruning. Strive to maintain its natural, graceful form.

Weeping ornamental cherries are made up of two component parts. The top part of the tree is "grafted" or joined to the trunk of an upright cherry tree with a special grafting compound. This graft is generally made at a height of 4-5 ft above the ground. **Any branches that appear below the graft should be trimmed off.** If you notice any vertically growing branches, they too should be cut back to their point of origin.

COMMON PROBLEMS + SOLUTIONS

A tree planted in optimal conditions - full sun, in healthy, well-drained soil and provided adequate water - is less likely to suffer from disease or insect problems. Pay close attention to the tree for signs of diseases such as leaf spot or powdery mildew, or insect damage from aphids or Japanese beetles, and seek appropriate treatment.

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