



**Turkey Oak**  
*Quercus cerris*

Height: 50 feet

Spread: 60 feet

Sunlight: ☉

Hardiness Zone: 5a

**Description:**

An attractive shade tree with a dense wide-spreading habit of growth and interesting bark, best used in larger landscapes where it has room to spread its wings; extremely tough and adaptable but relatively slow growing

**Ornamental Features**

Turkey Oak has dark green deciduous foliage on a tree with a round habit of growth. The serrated lobed leaves turn coppery-bronze in fall. However, the fruit can be messy in the landscape and may require occasional clean-up.

**Landscape Attributes**

Turkey Oak is a deciduous tree with a more or less rounded form. Its average texture blends into the landscape, but can be balanced by one or two finer or coarser trees or shrubs for an effective composition.

This tree will require occasional maintenance and upkeep, and is best pruned in late winter once the threat of extreme cold has passed. It is a good choice for attracting squirrels to your yard. Gardeners should be aware of the following characteristic(s) that may warrant special consideration;

- Messy

Turkey Oak is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Shade



*Turkey Oak*  
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant  
Finder

### **Planting & Growing**

Turkey Oak will grow to be about 50 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 60 feet. It has a high canopy with a typical clearance of 6 feet from the ground, and should not be planted underneath power lines. As it matures, the lower branches of this tree can be strategically removed to create a high enough canopy to support unobstructed human traffic underneath. It grows at a slow rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live to a ripe old age of 300 years or more; think of this as a heritage tree for future generations!

This tree should only be grown in full sunlight. It is very adaptable to both dry and moist locations, and should do just fine under average home landscape conditions. It is not particular as to soil type or pH. It is somewhat tolerant of urban pollution. This species is not originally from North America.