# Pruning Shrubs (When and to What Form)

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Note: Species and cultivar characteristics takes precedent over recommendations of this publication.

## **DECIDUOUS SHRUBS**

Preferred While Dormant	Form	Preferred After Blooming	Form
Abeila (Glossy Abelia)	Round	Amelachier (Serviceberry)	Round
Acanthopanax (Fiveleaf Aralia)	Upright	Calycanthus (Sweetshrub)	Round
Aronia (Chokeberry)	Upright	Caragana (Peashrub)	Vertical Oval
Berberis (Barberry)	Round	Chaenomeles (Flowering quince)	Round
Callicarpa (Beautyberry)	Horizontal Weeping	Cotoneaster (Cotoneaster)*+	Low Spreading
Ceanothus (New Jersey Tea)	Round	Corylopsis (Winterhazel)	Spreading
Cephalanthus (Buttonbush)	Round	Deutiza (Deutzia)	Round
Clethra (Summersweet Clethra)	Vertical Oval	Elaeaguns (Autumn-olive)	Horizontal Oval
Cornus (Dogwood)*	Upright	Enkianthus (Enkianthus)	Upright
Cotoneaster (Cotoneaster)*+	Vertical Oval	Exchorda (Pearlbush)	Upright
Diervilla (Bush-Honeysuckle)	Round	Forsythia (Forsythia)	Horizontal Weeping
Hibiscus (Althea, Rose-of-Sharon)	Upright	Fothergilla (Fothergilla)	Low Spreading
<i>Hydrangea</i> (Hydrangea)+	Round	Hamamelis (Witchhazel)	Round
Hypericum (St. Johnswort)	Round	Itea (Sweetspire)	Round
Leptodermis (Leptodermis)	Round	Kerria (Kerria)	Upright
Ligustrum (Privet)	Vertical Oval	Kolkwitzia (Beautybush)	Horizontal Oval
Lonicera (Honeysuckle)+	Upright	Lindera (Spicebush)	Round
<i>Myrica</i> (Bayberry)	Upright	Lonicera (Honeysuckle)*+	Round
Nandina (Heavenly Bamboo)	Upright-Leggy	Philadelphus (Mockorange)	Upright-Leggy
Pyracantha (Firethorn)	Horizontal Oval	Physocarpus (Ninebark)	Round
Rhamnus (Buckthorn)	Vertical Oval	Prunus (Almond, Plum)	Round
Rhodotypos (Black Jetbead)	Round	Rhododendron (Azalea)+	Round
Rhus aromatic (Fragrant Sumac)	Low Spreading	Ribes (Currant)	Upright
Rhus (Sumac)	Horizontal Oval	Salix (Pussy Willow)+	Round
Sambucus (Elder)	Round	Spiraea (White Flower Spirea)	Horizontal Weeping
Sorbaria (False Spirea)	Horizontal Oval	Stryax (Snowbell)	Round
Symphoricarpos (Coralberry)	Low Spreading	Viburnum (Viburnum)*+	Round
Viburnum (Viburnum)*+	Round	Weigela (Weigela)	Horizontal Weeping

<sup>\*</sup>These shrubs consist of both flowers and fruits. Pruning while dormant or after blooming will sacrifice one or the other.

<sup>+</sup>These shrubs have many species that vary in form.



#### **BROADLEAF & EVERGREEN SHRUBS**

Note: These may be pruned anytime they are not frozen, however, after spring growth is preferred.

	Form
Buxus (Boxwood)	Round
Chamaecyparis (False cypress)*	Round
Euonymus	Round
Ilex (Holly)+	Round

Juniperus (Juniper)+ Spreading, Upright

Mahonia (Oregon Grapeholly)

Picea (Spruce)\*

Pinus (Mugho Pine)^

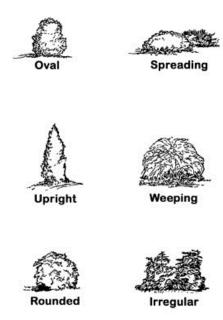
Round

Taxus (Yew) Spreading, Round, Upright

Thuja (Arborvitae) Vertical Oval

\* These shrubs have many species that vary in form.

<sup>^</sup> To control size, cut back the candles (new growth) as they are elongating in the spring.



### **SUBSHRUBS**

Note: These plants either bloom better when pruned nearly to the ground every early spring. They often have heavy above ground dieback.

Buddleia (Butterfly-Bush, Summer Lilac)
Caryopteris (Blue-Spirea)
Indigofera (Indigo)
Lagerstoemia (Crapemyrtle)
Leycesteria (Pheasant Berry)
Potentilla (Bush Cinquefoil)
Spiraea (Pink Flower Spirea)
Vitex (Chastetree)

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