



## Slow Growing Trees

Some tree species are slow-growing due to their evolutionary adaptations to specific environmental conditions. These trees often prioritize resilience and long-term survival over rapid growth, allowing them to thrive in nutrient-poor soils or harsher climates. Their slower growth rates can be a strategy to conserve resources, as they may invest more in developing robust root systems or dense wood, which enhances stability and longevity. Additionally, slower-growing species tend to have longer lifespans, making them more suitable for ecosystems where competition for light and nutrients is fierce, enabling them to eventually dominate in stable environments.

1. **Blackgum (*Nyssa sylvatica*)** – Grows 40-60 feet tall and 25 feet wide. The Blackgum has great fall color, turning red, and does well in the Southeast because it is native. It grows about 1 foot per year, prefers full sun, and is deciduous.
2. **Blue Atlas Cedar (*Cedrus atlantica* 'Glauca')** – It grows 40-60 feet tall and 20-30 feet wide with a growth rate of 1 foot per year. Prefers full sun and is evergreen.
3. **Bur Oak (*Quercus macrocarpa*)** – Grows 60-80 feet tall and 40-60 feet wide with a growth rate of 1-2 feet per year. Produces the biggest acorn in the oak family, which is edible. Prefers full sun and is deciduous.
4. **Chinkapin Oak (*Quercus muehlenbergii*)** – Grows to 40-50 feet tall and wide with a growth rate of 1-2 feet per year. Prefers full sun and is deciduous.

5. **Desert Willow (*Chilopsis linearis*)** – Grows 15-30 feet tall and 10-20 feet wide with a growth rate of 1-2 feet per year. Prefers full sun and is deciduous.
6. **Dogwood (*Cornus florida*)** – It can grow 20-40 feet tall and 20 feet wide, with a growth rate of 13-24 inches per year. Prefers partial shade and is deciduous.
7. **Ginkgo (*Ginkgo biloba*)** – It grows to about 66-115 feet tall and 40 feet wide with a growth rate of 1-2 feet per year. Prefers full sun and is deciduous.
8. **Japanese Maple (*Acer palmatum*)** – The most popular variety is the Bloodgood. It can grow 15-20 feet tall and wide with a growth rate of 1-1.5 feet per year. Prefers partial shade and is deciduous.
9. **Japanese Yew (*Taxus cuspidata*)** – Grows up to 20-30 feet tall and about 20 feet wide. The growth rate is 12-20 inches per year. Prefers partial shade and is evergreen.
10. **Live Oak (*Quercus virginiana*)** – Can grow up to 40-80 feet tall and wide with a growth rate of 2-5 feet per year. Prefers full sun and is evergreen.
11. **Magnolia (*Magnolia grandiflora*)** – This large tree can grow up to 60-80 feet tall and 20-40 feet wide with a growth rate of 1-2 feet per year. Some varieties, like the Teddy Bear Magnolia and Little Gem Magnolia, don't get as big if you want a more manageable tree. Prefers full sun and is evergreen.
12. **Olive Arbequina (*Olea europaea* 'Arbequina')** – It can grow 15-20 feet tall and 8-12 feet wide with a growth rate of 12 inches per year. Prefers full sun and is deciduous.
13. **Pecan Tree (*Carya illinoensis*)** – It can grow up to 66-130 feet tall, with some recorded even taller, and has a width of 30-50 feet with a growth rate of 5-12 inches per year. Prefers full sun and is deciduous.

14. **Weeping Redbud (*Cercis canadensis* spp.)** – Can grow about 5-7 feet tall and 4 feet wide with a growth rate of 1 foot per year. Prefers full sun and is deciduous.
15. **Windmill Palm (*Trachycarpus fortunei*)** – Grows to about 10-40 feet tall and 6-10 feet wide with a growth rate of 6-8 inches per year. Prefers full sun and is evergreen.