

Dichotomous Key to Common Trees of the Pacific Northwest <<http://oregonstate.edu/trees/>>
Gymnosperms (Conifers and Yew)

- 1a. Tree a conifer (conifers have needlelike or scale-like leaves and usually bear seeds inside woody cones).....2
- 2a. Leaves needle-like.....3
 - 3a. Needles clustered4
 - 4a. Clusters of 2-5 needles pine (*Pinus*)
 - Two needles per bundle..... lodgepole pine (*Pinus contorta*)
 - Three needles per bundle..... ponderosa (*P. ponderosa*), Jeffrey (*P. jeffreyi*) and knobcone pine (*P. attenuata*)
 - Five needles per bundle..... western white (*P. monticola*), sugar (*P. lambertiana*), limber (*P. flexilis*) and whitebark pine (*P. albicaulis*)
 - 4b. Clusters greater than 105
 - 5a. Needles soft (deciduous)..... larch (*Larix*)
 - Our only larch..... western larch (*Larix occidentalis*)
 - 5a. Needles stiff (evergreen)..... true cedar (*Cedrus*)
 - * deodar cedar (*C. deodara*)
 - * atlas cedar (*C. atlantica*)
 - * cedar of Lebanon (*C. libani*)
 - 3b. Needles not clustered6
 - 6a. Needles short and sharp giant (redwood) sequoia (*Sequoiadendron giganteum*)
 - 6b. Needles longer than ½"7
 - 7a. Tiny pegs on twigs8
 - 8a. Pegs square, needles sharp spruce (*Picea*)
 - * Sitka spruce (*P. sitchensis*)
 - * Engelmann spruce (*P. engelmannii*)
 - * Brewer spruce (*P. breweriana*)
 - 8b. Pegs rounded, needles blunt..... hemlock (*Tsuga*)
 - * mountain hemlock (*T. mertensiana*)
 - * western hemlock (*T. heterophylla*)
 - 7b. No pegs on twigs.....9
 - 9a. Buds large and pointed..... Douglas-fir (*Pseudotsuga menziesii*)
 - 9b. Buds not large and pointed10
 - 10a. Terminal buds round and clustered true fir (*Abies*)
 - * grand fir (*A. grandis*)
 - * Pacific silver fir (*A. amabilis*)
 - * noble fir (*A. procera*)
 - * California red fir (*A. magnifica*)
 - * subalpine fir (*A. lasiocarpa*)
 - * white fir (*A. concolor*)
 - 10b. Terminal buds not clustered.....11
 - 11a. Needles green underneath Pacific yew (*Taxus brevifolia*)
 - 11b. Needles white underneath12
 - 12a. Needles pointed..... (coastal) redwood (*Sequoia sempervirens*)
 - 12a. Needles blunt..... hemlock (see 8b)
 - 2b. Leaves flattened and scale-like13
 - 13a. All leaves short and sharp giant (redwood) sequoia (*Sequoiadendron giganteum*)
 - 13b. Some leaves not sharp.....14
 - 14a. Cones round15
 - 15a. Cones soft and leathery juniper (*Juniperus*)
 - * western juniper (*J. occidentalis*)
 - * common juniper (*J. communis*)

• *	..... Rocky Mountain juniper (<i>J. scopularum</i>)	
15b. Cones woody	.....	16
16a. Cones under ½" diameter	..... white-cedar, etc. (false cedars)	
• *	..... incense-cedar (<i>Calocedrus decurrans</i>)	
• *	..... arborvitae; western redcedar (<i>Thuja plicata</i>)	
• *	..... white-cedar or false cypress (<i>Chamaecyparis</i>)	
• *	..... Port Orford-cedar (<i>C. lawsoniana</i>)	
• *	..... Alaska-cedar (<i>C. nootkatensis</i>)	
16b. Cones over ½" diameter	..... Baker cypress (<i>Cupressus bakerii</i>)	
14a. Cones not round	.....	17
17a. Cones resemble rose buds	..... redcedar/arborvitae (see 16a)	
17b. Cones resemble duck's bill	..... incense-cedar (see 16a)	
1b. Tree a broadleaf (usually with wide, flat leaves and bear their seeds inside of soft fruits)	.....	18