

# *Carpinus betulus*

(Hornbeam)

**February  
2011**



*Carpinus betulus* is a native tree found mainly in south and east Britain. It clips well making it ideal for hedging and pleaching. In autumn the leaves turn golden yellow and it will hold some leaf during winter. Tolerance of poor planting conditions make it an extremely useful plant.

In Old English, horn-beam meant hard tree. The wood has been used for cart wheels, chopping blocks, mallets and piano parts.

*Carpinus betulus* is available from Deepdale as a standard tree, feathered plant, clipped hedging unit, pleached or box head and in other forms.

## Plant Profile

**Name:** *Carpinus betulus*

**Common Name:** Hornbeam

**Family:** Betulaceae

**Height:** up to 25m

**Leaves:** Green, ribbed leaves with a fine toothed edge turning yellow in autumn.

**Bark:** Grey and smooth becoming fluted or muscular with age.

**Flower:** Catkins appear after leaves

**Fruit:** Female flowers develop into winged seeds / keys

**Habit:** Broadly conical.



8-10m feathered *Carpinus*

## *Carpinus betulus*

(Hornbeam)

**Deepdale**

It is thought that the maze at Hampton Court was originally planted with Hornbeam.

Hornbeam makes valuable firewood as it burns slowly and is hot enough to smelt iron.



*Autumn colour*



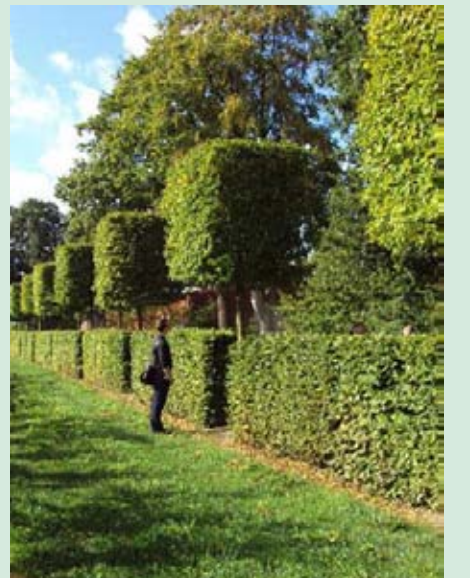
*3m Instant Hedging Elements*



*Standard 18-20-25cm girth*



*Pleached Carpinus*



*Carpinus box head & instant hedging*