

These 'rules of thumb' are based on values given by DEFRA in the Hedgerow Survey Handbook. These have been also converted here into values for girth (circumference).

They collate the maximum trunk sizes recorded by Mitchell (1974) for each species and adapting categories of 'potentially interesting', 'valuable' and 'truly ancient'

described by Read (2000) to relate to these maximum trunk sizes. The values given by DEFRA are for diameter at breast height (I DCC us the GIRTH measurements

Species	English name	Diameter and girth measured at 1.5m							
		Interesting		Veteran		Ancient		Maximum recorded	
		DBH	GIRTH	DBH	GIRTH	DBH	GIRTH	DBH	GIRTH
Acer campestre	Field maple	0.31	0.97	0.45	1.41	0.6	1.89	0.96	3.02
Acer platanoides	Norway maple	0.41	1.29	0.6	1.89	0.8	2.51	1.27	3.99
Acer pseudoplatanus	Sycamore	0.71	2.23	1.05	3.3	1.39	4.37	2.23	7.01
Aesculus hippocastanum	Horse chestnut	0.65	2.04	0.96	3.02	1.27	3.99	2.04	6.41
Alnus glutinosa	Alder	0.38	1.19	0.55	1.73	0.74	2.33	1.18	3.71
Alnus incarna	grey Alder	0.2	0.63	0.3	0.94	0.4	1.26	0.64	2.01
Arbutus unedo	Strawberry Tree	0.12	0.38	0.18	0.57	0.24	0.75	0.38	1.19
Betula pendula	Silver birch	0.31	0.97	0.45	1.41	0.6	1.89	0.96	3.02
Betula pubescens	Downy birch	0.31	0.97	0.45	1.41	0.6	1.89	0.96	3.02
Buxus sempervirens	Box	0.08	0.25	0.12	0.38	0.16	0.5	0.25	0.79
Carpinus betulus	Hornbeam	0.41	1.29	0.6	1.89	0.8	2.51	1.27	3.99
Castanea sativa	Sweet Chestnut	1.02	3.21	1.5	4.71	1.99	6.25	3.18	9.99
Crataegus monogyna	Hawthorn	0.31	0.97	0.45	1.41	0.6	1.89	0.96	3.02
Fagus sylvatica	Beech	0.63	1.98	0.93	2.92	1.23	3.87	1.97	6.19
Fraxinus excelsior	Ash	0.61	1.92	0.9	2.83	1.19	3.74	1.91	6
Ilex aquifolium	Holly	0.18	0.57	0.27	0.85	0.36	1.13	0.57	1.79
Juglans regia	Walnut	0.61	1.92	0.9	2.83	1.19	3.74	1.91	6
Malus sylvestris	Crab Apple	0.31	0.97	0.45	1.41	0.6	1.89	0.96	3.02
Mespilus germanica	Meddler	0.15	0.47	0.22	0.69	0.3	0.94	0.48	1.51
Pinus sylvestris	Scots pine	0.61	1.6	0.9	2.36	1.19	3.11	1.91	5
Populus alba	White poplar	0.51	0.63	0.75	0.94	0.99	1.26	1.59	2.01
Populus nigra	Black poplar	0.51	1.6	0.75	2.36	0.99	3.11	1.59	5
P. x canadensis var serotina	hybird black poplar	0.2	1.92	0.3	2.83	0.4	3.74	0.64	6
P. x canescens	hybrid grey poplar	0.51	1.6	0.75	2.36	0.99	3.11	1.59	5
Prunus avium	gean or wild cherry	0.46	1.45	0.67	2.11	0.9	2.83	1.43	4.49
Pyrus pyraister	wild pear	0.2	0.63	0.3	0.94	0.4	1.26	0.64	2.01
Quercus cerris	turkey oak	0.82	2.58	1.2	3.77	1.59	5	2.55	8.01
Quercus ilex	holme oak	0.44	1.38	0.64	2.01	0.86	2.7	1.37	4.31
Quercus petraea	Sessile oak	0.91	2.86	1.33	4.18	1.77	5.56	2.83	8.89
Quercus robur	English oak	1.02	3.21	1.5	4.71	1.99	6.25	3.18	9.99
Robinia pseudoaccacia	False acacia	0.51	1.6	0.75	2.36	0.99	3.11	1.59	5
Salix caprea	goat willow	0.15	1.29	0.22	1.89	0.3	2.51	0.48	3.99
Salix fragilis	crack willow	0.41	1.13	0.6	1.63	0.8	2.2	1.27	3.49
Sorbus aria agg	whitebeam	0.36	0.6	0.52	0.88	0.7	1.19	1.11	1.89
Sorbus aucuparia	rowan	0.19	0.79	0.28	1.16	0.38	1.57	0.6	2.51
S. x thuringiaca	bastard service tree	0.25	0.47	0.37	0.69	0.5	0.94	0.8	1.51
Sorbus intermedia agg	swedish whitebeam	0.2	0.63	0.3	0.94	0.4	1.26	0.64	2.01
Sorbus latifolia agg	service tree of fontaine bleau	0.28	0.88	0.4	1.26	0.54	1.7	0.86	2.7
Sorbus torminalis	wild service	0.29	0.91	0.42	1.32	0.56	1.76	0.89	2.8
Taxus baccata	yew	0.71	3.21	1.05	4.71	1.39	6.25	2.23	9.99
Tilia cordata	small leaved lime	1.02	1.92	1.5	2.83	1.99	3.74	3.18	6
Tilia platyphyllos	large leaved lime	0.61	1.85	0.9	2.73	1.19	3.61	1.91	5.81
Tilia x europea	common lime	0.59	2.23	0.87	3.3	1.15	4.37	1.85	7.01
Ulmus glabra	wych elm	0.51	2.23	0.75	3.3	0.99	4.37	1.59	7.01
Ulmus minor	smooth leaved elm	0.56	1.95	0.82	2.86	1.09	3.8	1.75	6.1
Ulmus procera/ var. vulgaris	english elm	0.71	2.23	1.05	3.3	1.39	4.37	2.23	7.01
U. x hollandica	dutch elm	0.62	1.6	0.91	2.36	1.21	3.11	1.94	5
U. x vegeta	huntingdon elm	0.71	1.76	1.05	2.58	1.39	3.43	2.23	5.5