

Norway spruce [Pinaceae](#) *Picea abies* (L.) Karst.  symbol:
PIAB



Leaf: Evergreen needles, stiff, 1/2 to 1 inch long, 4-angled but somewhat flattened, with a sharp pointed tip, shiny deep green. Each needle borne on a raised, woody peg (sterigma).

Flower: Species is monoecious; males yellow-brown in large groups; females upright, purple.

Fruit: Cones are very large, cylindrical, 4 to 6 inches long, with stiff, thin scales that are irregularly toothed, chestnut brown, maturing in fall.

Twig: Slender to medium in size, lacking hair, shiny orangish brown; needles are borne on woody pegs; buds with very loose, orange-brown scales (resembles a rose).

Bark: Red-brown and scaly, later turning gray with flaking scales or plates.

Form: A medium to large tree with conical form capable of reaching over 120 feet tall, with horizontal to upward sweeping branches that often droop branchlets.

Looks like: [red spruce](#) - [Oriental spruce](#) - [Brewer spruce](#) - [Serbian spruce](#)



Native to Europe, planted as a timber tree and an ornamental in zones 2-7, known to escape.

Additional Range Information: *Picea abies* is planted in the [USDA hardiness zones](#) shown above and may seed into the landscape. [See states reporting Norway spruce.](#)

External Links: [USDAFS Additional Silvics](#)
[USDA Plants Database](#)
[Horticulture](#)

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