Native Trees in Winter

See if you can identify what trees grow near you by looking at their buds or winter stem!



Downy birch has grey-white bark with horizontal grooves, and its twigs are softly hairy to touch. Its male catkins form in the autumn and remain all winter.

Birch

Hazel is usually multi-stemmed and has smooth, shiny bark. Catkins appear on hazel in autumn and winter. Hazel nuts are held in short leafy husks, and ripen from pale green to brown.



Hazel



Blackthorn twigs are black and spiny, and its leaf buds emerge along its spines. It can retain some of its dark sloe fruits through the winter.

Blackthorn



Native Trees in Winter



Hawthorn is commonly found in hedgerows, and develops a thorny mass of twigs. Its thorns emerge from the same point as its buds.

Hawthorn

Rowan, or Mountain Ash has smooth silvery grey bark. Rowan buds are densely covered in small white hairs, and have a coneshaped tip.



Ash

Ash tree bark is smooth and grey. It is quite a slender tree, with upturned, trailing branches. Its buds in winter are black and velvety.

Sessile Oak bark is smooth and grey, becoming deeply fissured in mature trees. In winter it has clusters of rounded buds, which have more that three scales.





