**Introduction**

This male cultivar of Ginkgo is practically pest-free, resistant to storm damage, and casts dense shade. It makes a durable street tree with a narrow crown spreading to about 12 or 15 feet. A good tree for growing in a restricted overhead space. Other narrow upright cultivars include ‘Princeton Sentry’ and ‘Fairmont’. Ginkgo tolerates most soil, including compacted, and alkaline. The tree is easily transplanted and has a vivid yellow fall color which is second to none in brilliance, even in the south. However, leaves fall quickly and the fall color show is short. Unlike the species, the tree does not set fruit.

**General Information**

**Scientific name:** Ginkgo biloba  
**Pronunciation:** GINK-go bye-LOE-buh  
**Common name(s):** ‘Fastigiata’ Maidenhair Tree, ‘Fastigiata’ Ginkgo  
**Family:** Ginkgoaceae  
**USDA hardiness zones:** 5A through 8A (Fig. 2)  
**Origin:** not native to North America  
**Invasive potential:** little invasive potential  
**Uses:** highway median; urban tolerant; tree lawn > 6 ft wide; street without sidewalk; sidewalk cutout (tree pit); Bonsai

---


2. Edward F. Gilman, professor, Environmental Horticulture Department; Dennis G. Watson, former associate professor, Agricultural Engineering Department, UF/IFAS Extension, Gainesville, FL 32611.

The Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (IFAS) is an Equal Opportunity Institution authorized to provide research, educational information and other services only to individuals and institutions that function with non-discrimination with respect to race, creed, color, religion, age, disability, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, national origin, political opinions or affiliations. For more information on obtaining other UF/IFAS Extension publications, contact your county’s UF/IFAS Extension office. U.S. Department of Agriculture, UF/IFAS Extension Service, University of Florida, IFAS, Florida A & M University Cooperative Extension Program, and Boards of County Commissioners Cooperating. Nick T. Place, dean for UF/IFAS Extension.
Ginkgo biloba ‘Fastigiata’: ‘Fastigiata’ Maidenhair Tree

**Availability:** not native to North America

**Description**

**Height:** 50 to 75 feet  
**Spread:** 10 to 15 feet  
**Crown uniformity:** symmetrical  
**Crown shape:** upright/erect, columnar  
**Crown density:** dense  
**Growth rate:** slow  
**Texture:** medium

**Foliage**

**Leaf arrangement:** alternate (Fig. 3)  
**Leaf type:** simple  
**Leaf margin:** lobed  
**Leaf shape:** fan-shaped  
**Leaf venation:** parallel, palmate  
**Leaf type and persistence:** deciduous  
**Leaf blade length:** 2 to 4 inches  
**Leaf color:** green  
**Fall color:** yellow  
**Fall characteristic:** showy

![Figure 3. Foliage](image)

**Flower**

**Flower color:** green  
**Flower characteristics:** not showy

**Fruit**

**Fruit shape:** no fruit  
**Fruit length:** no fruit  
**Fruit covering:** no fruit  
**Fruit color:** no fruit  
**Fruit characteristics:** no fruit

**Trunk and Branches**

**Trunk/bark/branches:** branches don’t droop; showy; typically one trunk; thorns  
**Pruning requirement:** little required  
**Breakage:** resistant  
**Current year twig color:** brown, gray

**Current year twig thickness:** medium, thick  
**Wood specific gravity:** unknown

**Culture**

**Light requirement:** full sun, partial sun or partial shade  
**Soil tolerances:** sand; loam; clay; acidic; alkaline; well-drained; occasionally wet  
**Drought tolerance:** high  
**Aerosol salt tolerance:** moderate

**Other**

**Roots:** not a problem  
**Winter interest:** yes  
**Outstanding tree:** no  
**Ozone sensitivity:** unknown  
**Verticillium wilt susceptibility:** resistant  
**Pest resistance:** free of serious pests and diseases

**Use and Management**

Ginkgo may grow extremely slow for several years after planting, but will then pick up and grow at a moderate rate, particularly if it receives an adequate supply of water and some fertilizer. But do not overwater or plant in a poorly-drained area. Keep turf away from several feet around the trunk to help the tree become established. Very tolerant of urban soils and pollution, Ginkgo could be used more in USDA hardiness zone 7 but is not recommended in central and southern Texas or Oklahoma due to summer heat. Adapted for use as a street tree, even in confined soil spaces. Some early pruning to form one central leader and to eliminate vigorous upright branches is helpful.

There are several other cultivars: ‘Autumn Gold’ - male, fruitless, bright gold fall color and rapid growth rate; ‘Fairmont’ - male, fruitless, upright, oval to pyramidal form; ‘Laciniata’ - leaf margins deeply divided; ‘Lakeview’ - male, fruitless, compact broad conical form; ‘Mayfield’ - male, fruitless, upright fastigiate (columnar) growth; ‘Pendula’ - pendent branches; ‘Princeton Sentry’ - male, fruitless, fastigiate, narrow conical crown for restricted overhead spaces, popular, 65 feet tall, available in some nurseries; ‘Santa Cruz’ - umbrella-shaped, ‘Variegata’ - variegated leaves.

Propagation is by seed or grafting males.

**Pests and Diseases**

This tree is pest-free and considered resistant to gypsy moth.