

Pinus resinosa

Red Pine
Norway pine

Native to Maine

Upland
Forests













Leaves



Steven Katovich, USDA Forest Service



Look for dark green needles that are 12 to 18 cm long and brittle (break easily). The needles grow in clusters (fascicles) of TWO.

LEAF ARRANGEMENT	LEAF TYPE	LEAF/LEAFLET SHAPE	LEAF/LEAFLET EDGE
 ALTERNATE	 SIMPLE	 PALMATE	 SMOOTH
 OPPOSITE	 COMPOUND-BIPINNATE	 OVAL	 TOOTHED
 WHORLED	 COMPOUND-PINNATE	 NEEDLE	 WAVY

Plant



Joseph O'Brien, USDA Forest Service



Look for a conifer tree (tree with cones) that grows from 20-35 m in height and up to 1 m in trunk diameter, though taller trees can occur.

Stem



Flickr user esagor



Look for thick and gray-brown bark at the base of the tree. Cracks in the outer bark reveal red bark underneath. Bark toward the top is orange-red.

Seasonal Change



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Look for oval cones that are symmetrical and 4 to 6 cm long. When immature, cones are puplish in color.

Similar Species

Red pines always have needles in groups of two and have small cones without prickles. Pitch pine trees have needles in groups of 3 and cones with sharp prickles. White pines have 5 needles per group and long slender cones. Jack pines have distinctive curled cones.

Fun Fact

Red pine is an important tree to the logging industry. Its wood is used for making telephone poles, lumber, cabin logs, railway ties, and for paper pulp. A Red pine tree can live to be 350 years old!