

NATURAL BARRIER PROTECTION

One of the best ways to keep intruders out of your property is to use nature's own defense mechanisms. A barrier of prickly hedge around your property may be all you need to deter intruders. Here are some suggestions for plants to use.

Warning: - There's no guarantee that the plant you buy will not grow into a small shrub with no more thorns than a daisy!

- **CREeping JUNIPER** *Juniperis horizontalis "Wiltonii"* Also known as "Blue Rug" because of its long branches and prostrate shape forms a flattened blue carpet. It has a thorny stem and foliage.
- **BLUE SPRUCE** *Picea pungens "Globosa"* Rigid branches, irregular dense blue foliage, spiky needles. Height 1 to 1.25 yards, width 2 to 3 feet. Slow growing, requires moist rich soil.
- **COMMON HOLLY** *Ilex aquifolium* Large evergreen shrub, dark green spiked leaves. Large red berries on female plants only. Any well drained soil.
- **GIANT RHUBARB** *Gunnera manicata* Giant rhubarb like leaves on erect stems, abrasive foliage. Can grow up to 2.5 yards high. Plant by water for effect.
- **GOLDEN BAMBOO** *Phyllostachys aurea* Very graceful, forming thick clumps of up to 3 yards high. Less invasive than other bamboos. Hardy. Young shoots in spring.
- **CHINESE JUJUBE** *Zizphus sativa* Medium sized tree with very spiny pendulous branches. Leaves are glossy bright green. Bears clusters of small yellow flowers.
- **FIRETHORN** *Pyrocantha "Orange glow"* Flowers white in June, with bright orange and red berries. Thorny stem. Height 10 - 15ft. Suitable for north or east facing wall or as impenetrable hedging.
- **SHRUB ROSE** *Rosa "Frau Dagmar Hastrup"* Excellent ground cover, pale pink flowers, very thorny stem. Flowers May to September. Plant with garden compost and bonemeal.
- **PENCIL CHRISTMAS TREE** *Picea abias "Cupressina"* Medium sized tree of columnar habit, with ascending spiky branches. Attractive form with dense growth. Avoid dry, chalky soils.
- **JUNIPER** *Juniperis x media "Old Gold"* Evergreen golden tipped prickly foliage. Height 2 ft. Spread 6 ft. Low growing. Excellent ground cover.
- **PURPLE BERBERIS** *Berberis thunbergil "Atropurpurea"* Rich purple foliage. Thorny stem. Medium sized deciduous. Any soil, sunny position.
- **MOUNTAIN PINE** *Pinus mugo "Mughus"* A very hardy large shrub or small tree, with long sharp needles, of dense bushy habit. Leaves in pairs, 3 – 4 inches long; rigid and curved. Dark green.
- **BLUE PINE** *Picea pungens "Hoopsii"* Small to medium sized tree, spiky needled stem, densely conical habit. Vivid glaucous blue leaves. Likes moist, rich soil.