

# HOW TO CHOOSE A FRESH CHRISTMAS TREE



Not all trees are the same! When choosing a tree you need to think about many factors such as how early in the season you are getting it, the spot where you'll place it at home, your overall home decor style, the type and weight of ornaments you'll be using, the scent you like and of course, budget. But fear not, we have a guide for you with all our trees' attributes to help you pick the perfect tree.

Buying from a friendly volunteer at any of the lots is the best experience but trees can also be purchased on line at: [auntleahs.org/trees](http://auntleahs.org/trees)



## Douglas Fir

- Needle length 2-4 cm long
- Needle retention average
- Dark forest green in colour
- The most popular and least expensive cultured (shaped) tree. Ends up in 60% of homes.



## Noble Fir

- Best needle retention of all the firs
- Classic triangle shape and layered look
- Sturdiest branches
- Usually bluish green
- Classic tree smell
- Because this tree is much slower growing and requires a lot more work to get it to the required shape and size, the Noble Firs are always in short supply and more expensive
- If you want a tree that will look just as good in five weeks as the day you brought it home, pick a Noble.



## Interior Douglas

- Also known as the Rocky Mountain Douglas Fir
- Uncultured (not shaped, sheared) tree
- Come from B.C.
- Open, layered, natural look.
- Unlike the Coast Douglas-fir, Rocky Mountain Douglas-fir foliage has no noticeable scent.



## Grand Fir

- Lighter green in colour.
- Usually has a lower and greater girth.
- Does not have great needle retention, so if you plan to have your tree inside for more than two weeks and you don't want a lot of mess, this is not the best choice.
- The foliage has an attractive citrus-like scent, and is sometimes used for Christmas decoration, as well as for Christmas trees.



## Fraser Fir

- Next best after Noble firs for needle retention
- Attractive slim triangular shape
- Upward curling branches
- Quite fragrant - woody
- Forest green colour with silvery undersides.
- Its fragrance, shape, strong limbs, and ability to retain its soft needles for a long time when cut (which do not prick easily when hanging ornaments) make it one of the best trees for this purpose.
- The Fraser fir has been used more times as the Blue Room Christmas tree (the official Christmas tree of the President of the United States's White House) than any other type of tree



## Alberta Spruce (Table top)

- Excellent Needle Retention.
- Uncultured
- Layered, natural look
- Sturdy branches
- Strong minty smell



## Nordmann Fir

- Good needle retention (needles do not drop out)
- Attractive foliage
- needles are not sharp