



## Ilex crenata



|                              |                                                                            |
|------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Height</b>                | 2-3 (5) m                                                                  |
| <b>Width</b>                 | 1-2m                                                                       |
| <b>Crown</b>                 | dark, dense crown                                                          |
| <b>Bark and branches</b>     | brown                                                                      |
| <b>Leaf</b>                  | green, evergreen                                                           |
| <b>Flowers</b>               | white, flowers in May, June                                                |
| <b>Fruits</b>                | black                                                                      |
| <b>Spines/thorns</b>         | None                                                                       |
| <b>Toxicity</b>              | has toxic components                                                       |
| <b>Soil type</b>             | loamy soil, sandy soil, peaty soil, calcareous soil                        |
| <b>Soil moisture</b>         | suitable for dry soil                                                      |
| <b>Paving</b>                | tolerates no paving                                                        |
| <b>Winter hardiness zone</b> | 6 (-23,3 to -17,8 °C)                                                      |
| <b>Wind resistance</b>       | very good                                                                  |
| <b>Other resistances</b>     | resistant to frost (WH 1 - 6), can withstand wind                          |
| <b>Application</b>           | tree containers, roof gardens, coastal areas, small gardens, patio gardens |
| <b>Shape</b>                 | multi-stem treem                                                           |

Japanese holly is a highly variable species that usually remains a shrub form, but can grow into a small tree after many years. The crown is oval to round, sometimes somewhat irregularly shaped. The leaves are also highly variable in shape and size. From ovoid leaves up to 3 cm long to inverted ovoid, often spherical leaves only 1 cm long. The leaves are matt to glossy mid-green to dark green. Like all Ilex, I. crenata is dioecious. Male and female flowers are therefore on different plants. The flowers are small and inconspicuous. The female flowers, after pollination, are followed by small, shiny black berries.

Ilex crenata is a particularly versatile shrub. Suitable for planting both solitary and in groups, but also suitable for making low to medium hedges. The plant is sometimes used as a Buxus substitute. On heavy and insufficiently permeable soil, growth may stagnate, making the plant sticky.

There are dozens of cultivars of I. crenata on the market. Some differ by having a compact or low growth habit. Other cultivars have yellow, yellow-spotted or white-spotted leaves. Very well known are the cultivar with convex leaves: 'Convexa' and the yellow-leaved 'Golden Gem'.