



ACT
Government

Transport Canberra
and City Services

Design Standards for Urban Infrastructure

Plant Species for Urban Landscape Projects in Canberra

Botanical Name: *Quercus robur* (Qro)

Common Name: English oak

Species Description

- Deciduous
- Wide spreading tree with a dense crown and a heavily branched, shorter trunk
- Deeply fissured blackish-grey bark
- Small nearly [sessile](#) foliage with rounded lobes, turning yellowish-brown in autumn
- Slender yellow-green [catkins](#) in spring
- Acorns borne singly or in clusters

Height and width

20 metres tall by 20 to 25 metres wide

Species origin

Europe

Landscape use

- Available Soil Volume required: $\geq 100\text{m}^3$
- Provides excellent shade, and is useful for planting in parks and wide avenues
- Not good for small areas with limited space

Use considerations

- Grows better in low lying areas that receive higher moisture levels
- High frost tolerance and moderate drought tolerance
- Grows in a range of soils across Canberra and is tolerant of water logging; will not grow as well in loamy areas with lower water holding capacity
- Grows well in full sun
- [Long lived](#)
- Faster growing when young, then moderate growth rate
- Very low flammability
- Relatively free from pests and diseases, but can be affected by oak leaf miner and powdery mildew
- Thinning crowns in older specimens may require dead wooding
- Acorn drop may be a nuisance in pedestrian areas
- Produces pollen

Examples in Canberra

York Park and Macquarie Street, Barton and the National Arboretum Canberra

Availability

Commercially available

