Mahonia aquifolium

(Oregon grapeholly,)

Mahonia is a broadleaf evergreen shrub reaching maximum of 1.5 m. The stems are rarely branched and arise directly from underground, running stems. The bark has an inner yellow color. The leaves are pinnate or feather-like and attach directly to the stem. Leaflets are glossy, leathery, stiff, ovate, and have several sharp spines. new growth emerges reddish or bronze Showy, yellow flowers are small, held in dense, un-branched stalks at the ends of the branches and appear in the spring. Dark blue-black berries follow the flowers and resemble cluster grapes. Grape holly is a shade loving plant, but will grow in sunnier conditions is soil is moist. The soil should be cool, fertile, but well-drained and on the acid side. However, it will tolerate drought and poor conditions once established. Use Oregon grape holly in masses for foundation plantings, woodland interfaces, hedges or in containers.



Plant Image

Landscape Information

French Name: Mahonia à feuille de houx Pronounciation: ma-HO-nee-uh a-kwee-FOH-

lee-um

Plant Type: Shrub
Origin: Oregon

Heat Zones: 6, 7, 8, 9

Hardiness Zones: 5, 6, 7, 8, 9

Uses: Hedge, Border Plant, Mass Planting,

Windbreak

Size/Shape

Growth Rate: Moderate **Tree Shape:** Upright

Canopy Symmetry: Symmetrical

Canopy Density: Medium
Canopy Texture: Coarse
Height at Maturity: 1 to 1.5 m
Spread at Maturity: 0.5 to 1 meter

Time to Ultimate Height: 10 to 20 Years

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Flower Image

Botanical Description

Foliage

Leaf Arrangement: Alternate

Leaf Venation: Pinnate

Leaf Persistance: Evergreen

Leaf Type: Odd Pinnately compund

Leaf Blade: 5 - 10 cm
Leaf Shape: Ovate
Leaf Margins: Spiny
Leaf Textures: Rough
Leaf Scent: No Fragance

Color(growing season): Green

Color(changing season): Brown, Red

Flower

Flower Showiness: True Flower Size Range: 7 - 10 Flower Type: Raceme

Flower Sexuality: Monoecious (Bisexual)

Flower Scent: Pleasant Flower Color: Yellow Seasons: Spring, Winter

Trunk

Trunk Susceptibility to Breakage: Generally

resists breakage

Number of Trunks: Multi-Trunked Trunk Esthetic Values: Not Showy

Fruit

Fruit Type: Berry

Fruit Showiness: True Fruit Size Range: 1.5 - 3

Fruit Colors: Blue

Seasons: Spring, Winter

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Leaf Image

Horticulture Management

Tolerance

Frost Tolerant: Yes
Heat Tolerant: No
Drought Tolerant: Yes
Salt Tolerance: Poor

Requirements

Soil Requirements: Clay, Loam, Sand **Soil Ph Requirements:** Acidic, Neutral

Water Requirements: Moderate Light Requirements: Part, Shade

Management

Toxity: No

Invasive Potential: Yes

Susceptibility to Pests and Diseases: No Pruning Requirement: Needed, to develop a

strong structure

Fruit/ Leaves/ Flowers litter: No

Surface Rooting: No Life Span: 25-50 years Edible Parts: None

Plant Propagations: Cutting, Layering

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Fruit Image Other Image