

What's that leaf?

Trees are quite easy to identify because each species of tree has a different shape of leaf.

Here are the leaves of the most common trees to be found in the woodlands around south Wales.

a) Individual leaves



Oak

- "Lumpy" shape
- Tough texture



Beech

- Oval shape
- Shiny surface



Birch

- Triangular shape
- Serrated edges



Alder

- Round shape
- Rough surface
- Tough texture
- No point at tip



Hazel

- Round shape
- "Furry" surface
- Rounded shape
- Pointed tip



Willow

- Oval shape
- Slightly pointed tip
- No thorns



Blackthorn

- Oval shape
- Slightly pointed tip
- Thorny stem



Hawthorn

- "Lobed" shape
- 3-pronged tip
- Thorny stem



Cherry

- Round or oval shape
- Serrated edge
- Pointed tip



Ivy

- Glossy surface
- Tough texture
- 3-lobed shape



Holly

- Dark, glossy surface
- Tough texture
- Some are spikier than others!



Sycamore

- Large
- Red stem
- 5-lobed shape



What's that leaf?

b) Composite leaves –leaves made up of several parts



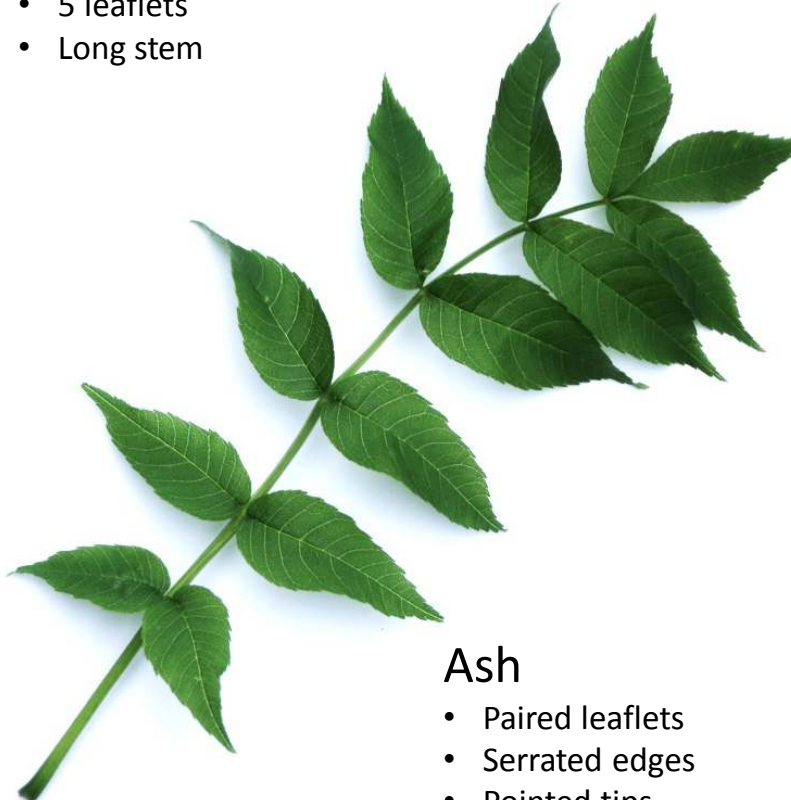
Horse chestnut

- Big leaf
- 5 leaflets
- Long stem



Elder

- 5 leaflets
- Oval shape
- Serrated edge
- Pointed tips



Ash

- Paired leaflets
- Serrated edges
- Pointed tips



Rowan

- Paired leaflets
- Slightly serrated edges
- Rounded tips