

HIGH PEAK TREE ADVICE NOTE

ASH DIEBACK DISEASE - How to Identify an Ash tree

Ash trees are common and there are a few details that make them easy to identify.

Ash trees are capable of being large trees (+20 metres in height).

Leaves

One big leaf made up of smaller leaflets



Buds

Ash have distinctive large black leaf buds visible before leaf break.

Bark

A mature tree's bark is fissured (right) whilst a young tree has a smooth a grey/buff colour



Flowers

In spring you may notice flowers on ash trees

Seeds/Keys

These hang in bunches in late summer/autumn time.



More info here:

<https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/trees-woods-and-wildlife/british-trees/a-z-of-british-trees/ash/>

Reviewed / Revised November 2021

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What does an infected tree look like?



The Crown

Appears thin with gaps and has less leaves than the other trees.

Note: ash are often the last tree species to come into leaf, so an ash without much leaf cover in April/May may not be a sign of disease.



Leaves

Develop patches of brown, die and fall from the tree as the summer progresses.



Buds & bark

There may be dark lesions on the stems – particularly young trees.

Seeds/keys

Infected trees often retain their seeds longer. They look like brown bunches and are very noticeable in the winter.

