



Ilex crenata



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