

Some of our favorite bamboos

The following are all clumping (non-running) bamboos. Arranged in order of height.

Bambusa species and varieties. Quite variable as to size, density of clumps.			
Eddie Gaedel	Bambusa multiplex 'Eddie Gaedel'	6' to 10'	Narrow, upright, tight clumper. Golden-striped culms, lush leaves.
Alphonse Karr	Bambusa multiplex 'Alphonse Karr'	12' to 15'	Slightly spreading tight clumper. Golden-striped culms, yellowish-green small leaves.
Buddha's Belly	Bambusa ventricosa	15' to 25'	Outward-spreading, zig-zag branches, very dense. Very fast, effective screen. Large, thick culms, deep green leaves.
Weaver's bamboo	Bambusa textilis	25'+	Very upright, tall, graceful; tight clump. More culm than foliage at eye level. Thin-walled culms. One of the nicest large bamboos for a normal yard.
Punting pole bamboo	Bambusa tuldoides	25'+	Very similar to B. textilis. Thick-walled culms.
Giant timber bamboo	Bambusa oldhami	35'+	The tallest clumper with the biggest culms that we grow here. Very tight clump. Large, lush leaves may show some burn in winter. Dramatic landscape plant.
Mexican weeping bamboo	Otatea acuminata ssp. aztecorum	20'+	Large, open clumper with culms that sprawl outward. Very soft foliage looks best with afternoon shade. Clump can get to 15' across.

Runners sometimes used for screening. Need to be confined! A livestock trough is a good option. Can be kept in an oak barrel for years so long as rhizomes are pruned when they try to escape. Barriers installed at soil level do work but must be monitored.

Temple bamboo	Semiarundinaria fastuosa	10 - 25' +	Slow spreader, manageable. Very erect culms with short branches form a narrow wall of columns of foliage.
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Phyllostachys species and varieties listed alphabetically by botanical name.
 Can be used somewhat interchangeably. Fast spreaders make a see-through effect. Mostly variable as to color of the culm, density, and ultimate height.

Some available types:

Golden bamboo	Phyllostachys aurea	Golden culms	25'+
Yellow groove bamboo	Phyllostachys aureosulcata	Golden, more slender culms	30'+
Castillon bamboo	Phyllostachys bambusoides 'Castillon Inversa'	Culms green with yellow grooves.	30'+
Holochrysa	Phyllostachys bambusoides 'Holochrysa'	Bright golden culms are very pretty. Considered less vigorous than others of this species.	30'+
Bissettii	Phyllostachys bissettii	Very dense growth, with dark green culms.	25'+
Mannii	Phyllostachys mannii	Very dense, but with slender stems that make a very leafy screen, Very tolerant.	15 - 25'
Black bamboo	Phyllostachys nigra	Culms turn black in second year. Open habit, see-through grove. Leaves may burn on tips and edges due to heat, salts in water.	20 – 30'+
Leopard-skin bamboo	Phyllostachys nigra 'Bory'	Culms are mottled, grow taller.	35'+

Some well-known bamboos, listed for information purposes. Probably too large for most yards or screen projects.

Giant Japanese timber bamboo, Madake	Phyllostachys bambusoides	Very straight, tall, thick culms. Very large.	40'+
Sweetshoot bamboo	Phyllostachys dulcis	Arching culms, good shoots for eating.	40'+
Moso	Phyllostachys edulis (P. pubescens) 'Shining Light'	Velvety culms, very large. This variety has unusually large, shiny leaves. Moso is slow to get going. The most widely used bamboo in the world for shoots, construction, etc.	40'+

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