



Simple Key to Twigs in Winter

1 Buds Opposite	2
1 Buds Alternate	5
2 Twig stout; bundle scars in u-shaped line within half-moon-shaped leaf scar	White Ash
2 Twigs not stout; 3 separate bundle scars in leaf scar	3
3 Twigs gray or brown, buds brown and pointed	Sugar Maple
3 Twigs and buds red	4
4 End buds less than ¼" long, rounded, with overlapping scales like shingles	Red Maple
4 End buds over ¼" long, with 2 scales that meet but don't overlap	Striped Maple
5 Buds longer than ½", thin, long, pointy, brown	American Beech
5 Buds shorter than ½"	6
6 Many buds clustered at the tip of the twig, lots of bud scales in 5 rows	Red Oak
6 Not as above	7
7 Buds fuzzy	8
7 Buds not fuzzy	9
8 Buds bright yellow, smell like lemon when crushed	Bitternut Hickory
8 Buds tan; leaf scars with large velvety strip, at top; look like monkey's face	Butternut
9 Buds lying tightly against twig with a single scale covering the whole bud	Willows
9 Buds with more than one bud scale	10
10 Twigs have strong smell when bark is scratched	11
10 Twigs have little or no smell when bark is scratched	12
11 Twigs have bitter almond smell	Cherry
11 Twigs smell like wintergreen	Yellow Birch
12 Buds round, reddish, plump, with hump-backed look, twigs zigzag	Basswood
12 Buds pointed, not red	13
13 Twigs stout, greenish with white lenticels; buds sticky; end bud crooked	Cottonwood
13 Twigs slender, dark brown with white lenticels; buds small and pointed	White Birch

