

Ginkgo biloba

Ginkgo biloba, also known as the Maidenhair Tree, is a unique and ancient species of tree that has been around for over 270 million years. It is considered a living fossil, as it has remained relatively unchanged since the time of the dinosaurs.

Characteristics

1. ***Distinctive Leaves*:** Ginkgo biloba has distinctive fan-shaped leaves with a long stalk.
2. ***Deciduous*:** It is a deciduous tree, meaning it sheds its leaves in the fall.
3. ***Large Size*:** Ginkgo biloba can grow up to 30 meters (100 feet) tall.
4. ***Long Lifespan*:** It is known for its long lifespan, with some trees estimated to be over 2,500 years old.

Uses

1. ***Medicinal Properties*:** Ginkgo biloba is used in traditional medicine for its supposed health benefits, including improving memory and cognitive function.
2. ***Ornamental Tree*:** It is often planted as an ornamental tree in gardens and parks due to its unique leaves and attractive fall color.
3. ***Food Source*:** The seeds of the Ginkgo biloba tree are edible and are used in some Asian cuisines.

Interesting Facts

1. ***Ancient Species*:** Ginkgo biloba is often referred to as a "living fossil" because it has remained relatively unchanged since the time of the dinosaurs.
2. ***Resistant to Disease*:** Ginkgo biloba is highly resistant to disease and pests, which has contributed to its long lifespan.
3. ***Symbolism*:** In some cultures, Ginkgo biloba is considered a symbol of longevity, wisdom, and resilience.