

Bamboo At A Glance

Clumping Bamboo Species

Borinda angustissima – Narrow-leaf Borinda
Borinda boliana
Chusquea culeou – Chilean Feather Bamboo
Fargesia dracocephala – Dragon's Head Bamboo
Fargesia murielae – Giant Panda Fodder Bamboo
Fargesia nitida – Blue Fountain Bamboo
Fargesia robusta – Walking Stick Bamboo
Fargesia rufa
Himalayacalamus asper – Tibetan Princess Bamboo
Thamnocalamus crassinodus
Thamnocalamus tessellatus



All of the clumping varieties listed are considered to be hardy in Portland, but some are more reliable than others. Fargesias are some of the hardiest bamboos available. Himalayacalamus is hardy to Zone 8, so should be planted in a protected area.

Fargesia robusta pictured

All running bamboos should be planted w/ roots contained

Running Bamboo Species – tall, 20'+

Phyllostachys aurea – Gold Bamboo
Phyllostachys aureosulcata – Crookstem Bamboo
Phyllostachys bambusoides – Madake Bamboo
Phyllostachys bissetti – Bisset's Bamboo
Phyllostachys congesta – Incense Bamboo
Phyllostachys decora – Beautiful Bamboo
Phyllostachys dulcis – Sweetshoot Bamboo
Phyllostachys edulis – Moso Bamboo
Phyllostachys heteroclada – Water Bamboo
Phyllostachys nigra – Black Bamboo
Phyllostachys nuda – Green Bamboo
Phyllostachys rubromarginata – Red Edge Bamboo
Phyllostachys vivax – Giant Timber Bamboo



Phyllostachys is often the type of bamboo that comes to mind when folks consider bamboo.

There is a wide variety of color & size.
All are cold tolerant enough to grow successfully in Portland.

Phyllostachys nigra pictured

Running Bamboo Species – med, 6-20'

Hibanobambusa tranquillans
Pseudosasa japonica – Arrow Bamboo
Qiongzhuea tumidissinoda – Chinese Walking Stick Bamboo
Sasa palmata – Palm-leaf Bamboo
Semiarundinaria fastuosa – Temple Bamboo



Mid-size bamboos can be perfect solutions for privacy screens. They fill in quickly & densely. Just make sure you

Running Bamboo Species – low, 12"-4'

Pleioblastus pygmaeus – Dwarf Bamboo
Pleioblastus shibuyanus
Pleioblastus variegata
Pleioblastus viridistriatus – Dwarf Greenstripe Bamboo
Shibataea kumasaca – Ruscus Bamboo



Low growing bamboos make great ground covers, so long as their roots are kept in place. Mow them to the ground in March and fresh new growth replaces last year's weathered leaves.

Pleioblastus variegata photo