



## DEFENSIVE PLANTING INFORMATION

**Plants.** The careful choice of plants, with suitable qualities can, where appropriate, be used to enhance physical protection. The use of thorny, dense growing shrubs planted around the perimeter of grounds and against suitable parts of buildings can be used to deter unwelcome visitors. Strategic planting can encourage callers to enter via a particular entrance or make access to a particular part of the property more difficult. Listed below are twelve examples of such shrubs. They have been chosen not only for their extremely defensive qualities but their colour, fragrance and ability to grow in most soil types. Regional variations in climate may affect which shrubs can be used, however as an option they are both functional & aesthetic.

**Berberis Ottawensis Superba.**

Use this as a hedge or individual shrub. Deciduous barbed plant with beautiful purple foliage. Yellow flowers in spring (1.5 - 2.0m), Allow two plants per metre.

**Hippophae Rhamnoides.**

Sea Blackthorn grows in any soil and is wind resistant. It bears silver foliage and excellent thorns. This large shrub provides superb cover. Plant in groups of three to obtain berries.

**Crataegus Monogyna.**

Common Hawthorn. This forms an impenetrable thorny hedge, attaining only the height of your choice. Fast growing, a wonderful sight in May & June with fragrant flowers. Red haws in autumn. Plant in a row four to one metre.

**Berberis Julianae.**

Prickly yellow, early flowering species. Evergreen with shiny dark leaves (1.25- 2.0m)

**Ulex Europaes.**

Common Gorse. Viciously spiny. Flowers March to May. (1.25 - 1.75m)

**Rosa Fruhlings Gold - Yellow.**

Fragrant old fashioned Rose. Densely prickly for hedges or individual shrubs (2.0 - 3.0m)

**Berberis Gagnepainii.**

A small dense prickly evergreen suitable for a low hedge - impenetrable (Allow 2 plants per metre)

**Pyracantha.**

A climbing evergreen with yellow, red & orange berries with white flowers in May on thorny branches. Very useful on fences and walls (3.0 - 5.0m)



**Rosa Rugosa Rubra Crimson.**

Fragrant old fashioned rose. Densely prickly for hedges or individual shrubs (2.0m)

**Berberis Stenophylla.**

Use as a hedge or a shrub. Graceful evergreen with long arching prickly branches. Masses of yellow flowers in spring. ( 1.25 - 2.0m) Allow two plants per metre.

**Mahonia Bealei Winter Sun.**

Prickly evergreen with yellow fragrant flowers in winter (1.25 - 1.75)

**Rosa Blanc Double de Coubert - White.**

Fragrant old fashioned Rose. Densely prickly for hedges or individual shrubs. (2.0m)