



**Desert Fan Palm**  
*Washingtonia filifera*

Height: 40 feet

Spread: 10 feet

Sunlight:

Hardiness Zone: 8b

Other Names: California Fan Palm, Petticoat Palm, Arizona Palm

**Description:**

A native southwestern palm suited for dry climates; large fan like leaves emerge from a columnar trunk ; spent leaves form a skirt around the trunk, and are a habitat for birds; largely cultivated as an ornamental palm; great for xeriscaping

**Planting & Growing**

Desert Fan Palm will grow to be about 40 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 10 feet. It has a low canopy with a typical clearance of 2 feet from the ground, and should not be planted underneath power lines. It grows at a slow rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for 80 years or more.

This tropical plant should only be grown in full sunlight. It is very adaptable to both dry and moist locations, and should do just fine under average home landscape conditions. It is considered to be drought-tolerant, and thus makes an ideal choice for xeriscaping or the moisture-conserving landscape. It is not particular as to soil type or pH. It is somewhat tolerant of urban pollution. This species is native to parts of North America.



*Desert Fan Palm*  
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder



*Desert Fan Palm bark*  
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder



**Barrie Location**  
4346 Highway 90  
Springwater, Ontario  
L9X 1T7

[bradfordgreenhouses.com](http://bradfordgreenhouses.com)

**Bradford Location**  
3817 County Road 4  
Bradford, Ontario  
L3Z 2A5

   @bgreenhouses

Desert Fan Palm is a fine choice for the yard, but it is also a good selection for planting in outdoor pots and containers. Because of its height, it is often used as a 'thriller' in the 'spiller-thriller-filler' container combination; plant it near the center of the pot, surrounded by smaller plants and those that spill over the edges. It is even sizeable enough that it can be grown alone in a suitable container. Note that when grown in a container, it may not perform exactly as indicated on the tag - this is to be expected. Also note that when growing plants in outdoor containers and baskets, they may require more frequent waterings than they would in the yard or garden. Be aware that in our climate, most plants cannot be expected to survive the winter if left in containers outdoors, and this plant is no exception. Contact our experts for more information on how to protect it over the winter months.



*Desert Fan Palm*  
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder