

# Norfolk Island Pine

## *Araucaria heterophylla*

Norfolk Island pines are not true pines, but rather a type of conifer. Pyramidal in shape with soft looking, dark green, needle-like leaves. A Norfolk Island pine, when grown indoors, is a popular houseplant known for its symmetrical, conical shape and vibrant green needles. While it can reach impressive heights outdoors (up to 200 feet), as a houseplant, it typically stays under 20 feet tall. With proper care, Norfolk Island pines can live for a long time as a house plant for both indoor and outdoor environments. Be careful not to over-water or over-fertilize. Over-watering, as well as excessive dry air caused by indoor environments, will cause potted Norfolk Island pines to drop the lower foliage.

**Type:** coniferous, evergreen tree

**USDA hardiness zones:** 10 – 11 outdoors

**Uses:** year-round indoor plant

**Origin:** native to Norfolk Island, Australia

**Height:** 5 to 8 feet **Spread:** 4 to 6 feet

**Light requirement:** full sun, can tolerate bright indirect light

**Soil tolerances:** well-draining potting mix

**Drought tolerance:** low, soil should be consistently moist

**Soil salt tolerances:** good

**Invasive potential:** not invasive

**Pest resistance:** easy care, but not entirely pest resistant

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Photo: Sandy Stevens,  
Santa Rosa County MG