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# *Pyracantha* ‘Apache’

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The U.S. National Arboretum presents *Pyracantha* ‘Apache’, a dwarf pyracantha with **show-stopping bright red fruit**. The low-spreading growth habit, fine-textured, glossy, dark green leaves, and high tolerance to both scab and fire blight make ‘Apache’ eminently desirable. Try this little beauty in some of your "problem" areas and anticipate rave reviews!



**U.S. National Arboretum Plant Introduction**  
Floral and Nursery Plants Research Unit



U.S. National Arboretum, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Research Service, 3501 New York Ave. NE., Washington, DC 20002



# 'Apache' firethorn

**Botanical name:**

*Pyracantha* 'Apache'  
(NA 48240; PI 499831)

**Family:**

Rosaceae

**Hardiness:**

USDA Zones 6–8; evergreen in Zones 7b and 8

**Development:**

'Apache' is the result of a complex hybridization made in 1971 between *P. koidzumii* 'Victory' and a seedling selection from the cross *P. koidzumii* 'Rosedale' × (*P. fortuneana* × *P.* 'Orange Glow'). Seedlings resulting from hybridization were artificially inoculated with fire blight under controlled conditions. 'Apache' was selected from 25 survivors in 1977 and released by Donald R. Egolf in 1987.

**Significance:**

'Apache' extends the range of available growth habits of pyracantha to that of a compact dwarf, one-third the size of standard firethorn. It is highly tolerant to both scab and fire blight, two of the most common diseases of pyracantha.

**Description:**

**Height and Width:** 4.5 feet tall and 6.5 feet wide at 14 years.

**Habit:** Densely branched, wide-spreading, mounded shrub with leafy thorns (spurs).

**Foliage:** Small, semi-evergreen to evergreen, glossy, dark green leaves.

**Flowers:** Corymbose flower clusters are borne on spurs and short shoots all along the branches, with each cluster composed of 30-60 small, white to creamy white flowers.

**Fruit:** A pome. Glossy, ornamental, bright red, 1/3-inch diameter fruit are borne in clusters along the branches. Highly tolerant to scab. Fruit ripens in late August, persists until mid-December, and is not readily eaten by wildlife.

**Culture:**

'Apache' will grow in any soil, but does best in a sandy loam or a container mix with a pH of 6.0-6.5. Grows well in full sun to partial shade, although flowering and fruiting will be better in full sun. Tolerates summer drought.

**Propagation:**

Roots easily from softwood, semi-hardwood, or hardwood cuttings under mist, following treatment with a 1000-5000 ppm IBA solution, in 4-6 weeks. Best rooting occurs in June, July, and August.

**Landscape use:**

Specimen, foundation planting, barrier planting, low hedges, highway medians where height is of concern, and embankments. Very attractive in containers or planters.

**Availability:**

Readily available from wholesale nurseries and some retail nurseries.

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