

## Leaf or leaflet shape

The shape of the leaf blade (or leaflet blade in the case of compound leaves). Where the widest part of the leaf or leaflet occurs is particularly important eg. near the middle in elliptic leaves, nearer the base in lanceolate leaves and nearer the apex in obovate leaves.

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L61 linear, thread-like (filiform),  
needle-like (acicular)



L62 oblong Having the length  
greater than the width but not  
many times greater, and the sides  
parallel.



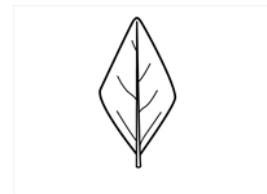
L63 lanceolate Broader in the  
lower half and tapering towards  
the tip.



L64 elliptic Oval in outline, widest  
at the centre.



L65 falcate Sickle-shaped.



L66 rhomboid Four-angled, with  
the side angles somewhat  
rounded.



L67 ovate Egg-shaped, with the broadest point towards the base and narrowing to tip. Attached to stem at the broadest end.



L68 orbicular Circular or nearly so.



L69 obovate or oblanceolate  
 Obovate is egg-shaped, but attached to stem at narrowest end.  
 Oblanceolate is broader in the upper half and tapering towards the base.



L70 triangular, cordate or palmate  
 Triangular is triangle-shaped, where the base is abruptly angled back towards to petiole. Cordate is heart-shaped, with a broad and notched base. Palmate is divided into several leaflets or deep lobes where they all arise at the same point.



L71 cuneate or obtriangular  
 Cuneate or obtriangular is wedge-shaped, gradually tapering from the base to a broad tip, as if the tip is cut-off.

