



## LICHEN IDENTIFICATION GUIDE

There are lots of different types and they can be difficult to identify, so our friends at the Woodland Trust have helped us put together a guide to seven lichen species you might find on your lichen walk.

The dots on the pictures will help you decide if they can live in:

**clean air**  **dirty air**  **somewhere in the middle** 

You might be confused by these long names which seem to be in another language! Well they are! These are the scientific Latin names which help us categorise plants and animals and tell them apart!



### *Usnea subfloridana*

For good reasons this species is also known as 'old man's beard'. It's a bushy lichen which can be yellow-green or grey-green with a black base. Widespread throughout the UK, it likes growing where the air is clean.



Credit: Gerard De Hoog /  
Alamy Stock Photo

### *Ramalina fastigiata*

These lichens are sometimes called strap lichens because of those long strap-like branches. It has disc-like parts on the end of the lobes. It's common throughout the UK, but it is sensitive to pollution.



Credit: David Chapman /  
Alamy Stock Photo

### *Ramalina farinacea*

Another lichen that is common throughout the UK but doesn't like polluted air. It can survive in shaded or sunny locations. It can be silvery grey-green or yellow-green with narrow flat branches.



Credit: Butten-Beeld /  
Alamy Stock Photo

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## *Hypogymnia physodes*

Also called monk's hood lichen, it has a grey-green collection of swollen lobes with brown colouring on the lower side. This lichen is widespread, but it's very sensitive to air pollution.



Credit: blickwinkel / Alamy  
Stock Photo

## *Phycia adscendens*

The pale grey, flattened branches of this lichen will hug the bark of trees tightly. The end of the each lobe is swollen and can look hood-shaped. It's a widespread species which is more tolerant of pollution.



Credit: Marko König / Alamy  
Stock Photo

## *Xanthoria parietina*

This brilliantly coloured lichen is sometimes known as common orange lichen. It's found throughout the UK on trees, roof tiles, wooden fences and rocks. This lichen likes to grow where the air is more polluted.



Credit: Robert Carr / Alamy  
Stock Photo

## *Candelariella reflexa*

This lichen is made up of bright yellow to yellow-green granules and can appear fluffy. It's common on the bark of many trees, especially at the lower end of the trunk where dogs might have, ahem, gone to the bathroom! It thrives in more polluted areas.



Credit: James Lindsey

You can find out more about trees and wildlife by visiting the Woodland Trust website [www.woodlandtrust.org.uk](http://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk)

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