ARBORISTS — GUIDE

What tree removal costs

Use a published US cost range as a starting point, then compare written quotes for the same tree and scope.

Updated November 10, 2026

A tree removal quote pays for more than cutting a trunk. Access, nearby buildings, rigging, disposal and the condition of the tree all affect the job. Ask for a site visit before you rely on a price.

A sourced US starting point

LawnStarter's *Pricing Guide: How Much Does Tree Removal Cost?*, updated October 5, 2026, reports a typical US range of **$385 to $1,070 USD** and an average of **$630 USD**. The same article lists stump grinding separately at **$158 to $450 USD**. These are the publisher's estimates, not Arborists prices or a quote for your property. They do not establish prices in Canada or the UK. LawnStarter, fetched 2026-11-10.

Do not use a national average to reject a site-specific quote. A tree over a roof has a different removal plan from a tree in open ground. Ask the contractor to explain the plan and its costs. LawnStarter names tree size, access and tree health as cost factors in the source above.

Send the same brief to each company

Describe which tree you mean. Add a photo taken from a safe place and a simple map. State the work you want: assessment, removal, stump work or a retention option. Ask whether the quote includes:

- A visit and a written scope.
- Permit work and any arborist report.
- Access equipment, rigging and traffic arrangements.
- Branch chipping, log removal and final cleanup.
- Stump grinding, chip removal and backfill.
- Taxes and any separate charges.

These are questions to ask, not promises that each company includes these items. Record exclusions in the same table as the total. An empty cell means you still need an answer.

Compare the scope before the total

Use columns for company, tree identifier, proposed work, exclusions, total, currency and quote expiry. Keep the written quote with the site photos. Ask for a revised written price if the scope changes. Do not assume a verbal change is included.

Ask whether pruning, monitoring or another retention option is suitable before you commission removal. ISA's tree owner resources cover plant health care and risk assessment. An assessment should address your tree and site. ISA, Tree Owner Resources, fetched 2026-11-10

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Before you accept

Check the named arborist's credential record. Request current insurance information. Ask who will confirm the permit position. Treat an unexplained low quote as a reason to ask questions about scope, not as proof of value. Use our permit checker to find the official route in the covered cities. Elsewhere, contact the local tree authority.

Sources

- LawnStarter, *Pricing Guide: How Much Does Tree Removal Cost?*, updated October 5, 2026; fetched 2026-11-10: https://www.lawnstarter.com/blog/cost/tree-removal-price/
- International Society of Arboriculture, *Tree Owner Resources*, fetched 2026-11-10: https://www.treesaregood.org/treeowner/choosinganarborist

Frequently asked questions

Is stump grinding in the removal price?

Ask the contractor. The published cost source lists it separately. Get the stump scope and price in writing.