

Bramble

Rubus fruticosus



WOODLAND
TRUST

What to look for

A very familiar, vigorous and thorny scrambling shrub

Flowers are white or pink

The edible fruit (blackberry) goes from green through red, to deep purple and finally black when ripe



Where found

Common in woodland, hedges, scrub and wasteland

It will grow almost anywhere throughout the British Isles

When to look

Flowers June-July

Ripe fruit from late August



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Did you know?

The fruit of the bramble is not a true berry - botanically it is termed an aggregate fruit

There are around 400 micro-species of wild blackberry growing in the UK

Strong ale brewed from blackberries, malt and hops was popular in the 18th and 19th centuries

Blackberries are known to have health benefits for women due to their high levels of phytoestrogens

During an archaeological excavation in Essex in 1911, blackberry pips were found in the stomach contents of the body of a Neolithic man

Thorny brambles were used by the ancient Britons the way modern people use barbed wire

Gerard's Herbal gives a remedy made from blackberry leaves 'for fastening the teeth back in'



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