Name	Appearance	Freshness	Taste	Salad Uses	Notes			
Bibb	Small, vivid green leaves	No browning at edges; no large cracked leaves	Sweet, delicate, mild	Alone or with Romaine or bitter greens	Wash well; grit hides in folds			
Boston	Somewhat round, spring-green leaves	No wilting or browning at tips or on stem	Sweet, mild	Alone or with leaf lettuces	Wash well; very gritty			
Green or Red Leaf	Long, green or red-tipped leaves	No browning at tips or on stem; no mushiness at tips of red leaf	Light, mildly sweet	Alone or with bitter greens	Colors dress up a salad			
Iceberg	Thick, sturdy leaves; tightly packed head	Firm and tightly packed; no brown spots	Crisp, mild	Alone or with Bibb or Romaine	Less dirt, but wash thoroughly			
Romaine	Deep-green, long leaves	No dry, overgrown outside leaves, no brown spots	Crunchy, has some bite	Alone or with Bibb or iceberg	Wash well; very gritty			

Leafy Lettuces

Bitter Salad Greens

Name	Appearance	Freshness	Taste	Salad Uses	Notes
Arugula	Dark, narrow leaves on stems	No yellow leaves or dark bruises; no large, dry, cracked outer leaves	Tangy, pungent	Alone or toss with leafy greens	Wash well to remove sand and grit; remove the stems
Belgian	White, conical leaves, looks like a cigar	Endive heads should be tightly wrapped	Subtly spicy	Slice thinly or add whole leaves; good contrast to milder flavored lettuce; with radicchio	Cut just before serving to prevent browning
Chicory	Long, frizzy light- green leaves	No brown or mushy spots	Slightly bitter	Add small amount to leafy greens	
Escarole	Broad, coarse leaves with wavy edges	No tough outer leaves	Slightly bitter	Add small amount to salads	Whitish inner leaves are best for salad
Watercress	Small, delicate leaves on long stems	Look for deep green leaves without any dark spots	Delicate, bitter	Alone; adds color and a sweetly bitter flavor to leafy greens; as a garnish	Wash gently as leaves bruise easily; trim away stems
Radicchio	Small, deep purple, tightly wrapped leaves	No yellowing edges; firm, not soft, leaves	Slightly bitter	Use a bit at a time to add color; with endive	Needs minimal washing; expensive, but keeps well