



Japanese Maple List

Japanese maples (*Acer palmatum*) and their relatives offer a large group of plants that can be adapted to almost any garden style and situation. In fact, a wonderful garden could be constructed entirely around a collection of maples. Height, habit, leaf form, seasonal color and interesting bark vary widely among the numerous cultivars. This offers opportunities for interplay with other plants.

In general, Japanese maples are medium-growing, vase-like trees that grow to 15 to 20 feet tall and 12 to 15 feet wide in about ten years. Over time, they can get larger. Laceleaf varieties (*Acer palmatum dissectum*) grow as mounding or weeping small trees, generally from 3 to 8 feet tall and 5 to 12 feet wide.

Japanese maples are generally adaptable to sun or part shade and are hardy to around -10°F. Fall color is usually striking and can be shades of yellow, orange or red. Many varieties with pale or variegated leaves need afternoon shade or filtered light to keep the leaves from burning. Most Japanese maples perform well in containers; however, bear in mind that plants in containers are more vulnerable than plants in the ground both to temperature extremes and to drought.

Maples flourish in humus-rich, well-drained soil. While they are reasonably drought tolerant once established, supplemental water during summer dry spells results in stronger growth and a generally healthier tree. Fertilize in early spring with a balanced fertilizer such as Dr. Earth All Purpose fertilizer. Maples can be pruned judiciously, with an eye to enhancing a plant's overall shape and natural beauty. If possible, avoid gardening underneath a Japanese maple – damage to the roots can be an entry point for a maple's greatest foe – the soil-borne fungus called verticillium wilt.

The following alphabetical cultivar list gives more information on specific varieties Sky will carry this spring. First come ***Acer palmatum*** cultivars, starting with the laceleaf varieties followed by the upright ones. After that we list ***Acer japonicum*** and ***A. shirasawanum***, and finally cultivars of the new cold-hardy hybrid ***Acer x pseudosieboldianum***.

ACER PALMATUM DISSECTUM (LACELEAF) VARIETIES

***Acer palmatum dissectum* (JAPANESE LACELEAF MAPLE)** In general, Japanese laceleaf maples are slow-growing, mounding or cascading small trees with finely dissected foliage. They do very well in containers.

'Crimson Queen' Height 3-6 feet; width 5-6 feet. Dark red leaves all summer—bright scarlet in fall. Most popular laceleaf variety.

'Emerald Lace' Height 6-7 feet; width 7-8 feet. Filtered sun or part shade. Vivid green foliage—good fall color. More vigorous than most laceleaf maples.

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'Inaba shidare' Height 4-6 feet; width 5-8 feet. Hardy to 0°F. One of the darkest purple-red laceleaves—holds color all summer. Brilliant crimson in fall.

'Orangeola' Height 3-5 feet; width 4-6 feet. Red color fades a bit in summer, and then turns brilliant orange-red in fall.

'Red Dragon' Height and width 3-4 feet. Deepest red laceleaf maple—hold color well. Scarlet fall color.

'Seiryu' One of the few laceleaf Japanese maples with an upright habit. Slow-growing, vase-shaped tree. Height 12-15 feet; width 6-10 feet. Sun or part shade. Hardy to -10°F. Green foliage has a delicate and graceful effect. Light-gold fall color.

'Tamukeyama' (BOLDRED LACELEAF MAPLE) Height and width 5-6 feet. Hardy to 0°F. Dark purple-red foliage; holds color well. Bright scarlet fall color. Wonderful landscape specimen.

'Viridis' (GREEN LACELEAF MAPLE) Height 2-6 feet; width 3-6 feet. Sun or part shade. Hardy to -10°F. Intense light green color all summer. Yellow and orange in fall.

'Waterfall' Height 6-8 feet; width 8-10 feet. Green foliage, darker than 'Viridis.' Gold streaked with red-orange in fall.

ACER PALMATUM VARIETIES

'Atrolineare' (WILLOWLEAF JAPANESE MAPLE) Slow-growing, vase-like tree. Height 10-12 feet; width 8-10 feet. Narrow leaves are dark, black-red, turning bronze later. Fall color is bright red. Outstanding specimen tree.

'Beni shi-en' (RED SMOKE JAPANESE MAPLE) Medium-growing, upright tree. Height 8-12 feet; width 4-6 feet. Deeply divided leaves emerge rosy red, turning purple, then to medium green with light green midrib. Pinkish hues in late summer turn golden in fall.

'Bloodgood' Medium-growing, vase-like tree. Height 15-20 feet; width 15-18 feet. Sun or part shade. Bright red samaras (keys). Excellent dark-red leaf color all summer. Good fall color, usually crimson. Very popular cultivar.

'Emperor I' (AKA 'Red Emperor') Medium-growing, open, airy tree. Height 12-15 feet; width 8-12 feet. Likes sun to part shade. Hardy to -20°F. Similar to 'Bloodgood' but holds its red foliage color better into late summer. Crimson in fall.

'Fireglow' Slow-growing, vase-like tree. Height 12-15 feet; width 10-12 feet. Scarlet new foliage turns to dark wine-red for the summer; leaves hold color well. Crimson and red fall color.

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'Herbstfeuer' Medium-growing, vase-like tree. Height 15-20 feet. Possibly a hybrid between Japanese maple and vine maple; broad leaves like vine maple. Chartreuse new foliage on bright red petioles, turning mid green in summer. Spectacular orange to fire engine red fall color; name means "autumn fire."

'Iijima-sunago' (SPRINKLED SAND JAPANESE MAPLE) Medium-growing, upright tree. Height 15-25 feet; width 10-15 feet. Sun or part shade. Hardy to -10°F. New leaves orange-red, turning purple-brown with green "sprinkles." Good orange, red, and yellow fall color.

'Katsura' Slow-growing, rounded tree. Height and width 10 feet. Sun or part shade. Hardy to 0°F. Fantastic soft yellow and orange new growth turns green in summer, yellow and orange edged red in fall.

'Little Sango' Height 5 feet, width 3 feet. Very compact, upright dwarf Coral Bark type with dense branching. Light green foliage turns orange and yellow in fall. Winter bark is vivid red.

'Mikawa yatsubusa' (MIKAWA DWARF JAPANESE MAPLE) Slow-growing, mounding tree. Height 4-5 feet; width 3-4 feet. Very dense and compact. Light green leaves overlay each other like shingles on a roof. Wonderful bonsai subject. Fall color shades of red, orange, or yellow, depending on sun.

'Mikazuki' Slow-growing, upright tree. Height 7-8 feet; width 3-4 feet. Lovely variegated form—pink blushed over white with green veins. Bright orange with green veins in fall.

'Nishiki gawa' (DWARF PINE BARK JAPANESE MAPLE) Medium-growing vase-like tree. Height 5-6 feet; width 5-6 feet. Likes sun. Hardy to 0°F. Corky, warty bark appears as plant ages. Green foliage. Good fall color.

'Osakazuki' (FLAME-LEAF JAPANESE MAPLE) Fast growing upright tree. Height 15-25 feet; width 10-20 feet. Rich green in spring and summer—intense crimson fall color. The best for autumn display!

'Osakazuki no akame' (DWARF FLAME-LEAF JAPANESE MAPLE) Medium-growing upright tree. Height 12-20 feet; width 10-20 feet. Sun or part shade. Rich green in spring and summer—intense crimson fall color. More compact form of 'Osakazuki'.

'Oshio beni' Medium-growing, vase-like tree. Height 15-20 feet; width 6-12 feet. Sun or part shade. Hardy to -10°F. New growth bright green, becoming bronze to dull reddish-green. Autumn color bright scarlet. Does well in containers. Protect from hot sun.

'Peaches and Cream' Slow-growing, upright tree. Height 6-8 feet; width 4-6 feet. New leaves are greenish cream with rose overlay and green veins. Fall color yellow with darker tips.

'Purple Ghost' Medium-growing tree. Height 10-12 feet. Sun or part shade. Purple leaves with black veins. Fall color is fiery scarlet and orange.

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'Red Pygmy' Slow-growing, rounded tree. Height 5-6 feet; width 3-4 feet. Likes sun. Hardy to 0°F. Thin, narrow, straplike leaves are red-maroon in spring and summer—bronze if grown in direct sunlight. Fall color gold to scarlet.

'Ryusen' AKA 'Ryusei' Height 4-6 feet, depending on staking; width 3-4 feet. Unique, extremely cascading form. Can be trained to a desired height, or allowed to weep over a wall or deck, where it can trail up to 20 feet. Likes sun. Bright green foliage in summer. Spectacular fall color—bright red over golden-orange base.

'Sango kaku' (CORAL BARK JAPANESE MAPLE) Medium-growing, vase-like tree. Height 15-25 feet; width 8-20 feet. Sun or part shade, but bark color is better if grown in full sun. Light green leaf turning yellow with light red in fall. Coral bark is striking in winter, particularly while tree is young.

'Shaina' Very slow-growing dwarf shrub or rounded tree. Height 4-6 feet. Hardy to -10°F. A dwarf, compact sport of 'Bloodgood'. Becomes dense with maturity. Deep red leaves turn crimson in fall.

'Shin deshojo' Slow-growing, spreading tree. Height 7-9 feet; width 4-6 feet. Hardy to 0°F. Flaming scarlet new foliage turns reddish green in summer. Red and orange fall color. Good bonsai subject.

'Shishigashira' Immediately recognizable due to its tight habit and crinkled foliage. Height 10-12 feet. Bright green leaves turn orange in fall. Among the very last Japanese maples to change colors and drop its leaves. Good patio tree or bonsai.

'Suminagashi' Medium-growing vase-like tree. Height 15-20 feet. Bright purple-red in spring, becoming very deep maroon, then crimson in fall.

'Tobiosho' (ISELI'S RED JAPANESE MAPLE) Medium growing upright tree. Height 12-15 feet—width 6-8 feet. Dense canopy of green leaves in summer. Spectacular fall display: foliage turns gold, orange, and red in turn, ending pure vivid scarlet. Fall color is best when tree is grown in full sun.

'Trompenburg' Fast growing upright tree. Height 15-25 feet; width 12-15 feet. Hardy to 0°F. Glossy deep red-purple leaves take full sun. Leaf edges curl downward. Small red flowers in spring. Scarlet fall color.

'Tsukushigata' Medium-growing rounded tree. Height 10-12 feet; width 6-8 feet. Likes sun. Leaves emerge shining purple, becoming dull purple in summer and crimson in fall. **Leaves turn green in shade.**

'Twombly's Red Sentinel' Medium-growing **columnar** tree. Height 8-14 feet—spread 6-10 feet. Sun or part shade. Hardy to 0°F. Deep red leaves; bright red fall color.

'Ukigumo' (FLOATING CLOUD JAPANESE MAPLE) Slow-growing, upright tree. Height 8-12 feet; width 4-6 feet. Sun or part shade. Hardy to 0°F. Beautiful landscape specimen—foliage is pastel green touched with pink and white. Variegation varies from year to year; plant tends to be paler in shade. Fall color is apricot to gold. **Protect from hot sun to prevent sunburn.**

OTHER JAPANESE MAPLE SPECIES

***A. japonicum* 'Emmett's Pumpkin'** Slow-growing, rounded shrub/tree. Height 6 feet, width 4 feet. Tangerine new foliage turns green blushed red; pumpkin orange fall color.

***Acer japonicum* 'Fairy Lights'** Slow-growing dwarf variety. Height 5-8 feet; width 4-6 feet. Likes light or dappled shade. Deeply cut leaves are light to dark green, turning a delicate blend of scarlet, orange, and gold in fall. Outstanding specimen tree.

***A. japonicum* 'Indian Summer'** Height 8-10 feet. Very large palmate leaves are dark green. Pink-flushed new growth; fall color is bright yellow overlaid with reds and oranges.

***A. japonicum* 'Vitifolium' (GRAPE-LEAF JAPANESE MAPLE)** Medium-growing rounded tree. Height and width 15-20 feet. Large rich green leaves. Good fall color- gold and scarlet. **Likes afternoon shade.**

***Acer shirasawanum* 'Aureum' (GOLDEN FULL MOON MAPLE)** Medium-growing rounded tree. Height 15-20 feet; width 12-15 feet. Part shade. Yellow leaves all summer. Fall colors are orange through red, sometimes purple. **Protect from hot sun.**

***A. shirasawanum* 'Autumn Moon'** Medium-growing rounded tree. Height 8-10 feet; width 6-8 feet. Sun or part shade. Yellow leaves flush rose in the summer, turning peachy orange in fall. **Protect from hot sun.**

***A. x pseudosieboldianum* 'Final Fire'** Medium-growing upright tree. Height 15-20 feet; width 10-15 feet. Cold hardy to -15°F; great for colder locations. Spring foliage is shades of pink, green, and yellow, turning green with red accents in summer. Spectacular fall show—foliage turns orange, then wine red, and finishes fire engine red.