



# WISE NURSERIES

*ideas that grow*

## Japanese Maples:

**General info:** Japanese maples have long been a favorite for gardens throughout the world. There is nothing else quite like a Japanese maple; they are in a class of their own. Each variety has its own unique beauty that adds elegance to any landscape. They make stunning centerpieces or eloquent backdrops.

**Planting:** Japanese maples are very sensitive to soggy soil and must be planted in well-drained soil. Pay attention to sunlight conditions according to the variety you plant. Many varieties will do best when they are shaded from the hot afternoon sun (such as the east side of a house or large trees), or when grown in filtered sun from large trees throughout the yard. Plant level or slightly higher than the existing grade. Pack the dirt in well, being sure that there are no air pockets around the root ball.

**Pruning:** Japanese maples do not need much pruning. Pruning of undesirable branches and tipping to promote a fuller canopy may be done.

**Fertilizing/Watering:** Fertilize once in spring and again in mid-summer. Water every 2 to 4 days in summer, depending on how well the soil retains water. (Sandy soil loses moisture fast; clay tends to hold water for several days.)

### Varieties:

**'Bloodgood'** is the best known, upright, red-leaf, tree-form cultivar. Leaves emerge a dark purple-red and hold their color to mid-summer. 'Bloodgood' will mature with a broad, rounded top up to 30 feet. This variety also takes our heat well. Can be planted in full sun.

**'Burgundy Lace'** has deeply divided leaves with a feathery appearance. They hold their burgundy-red color well into summer. They grow to about 20ft tall and do best with only morning or filtered sun. They tend to hold their color well in the shade.

**'Butterfly'** emerges pink to orange and has variegated edges on the leaves. The tree grows to about 18ft tall and is vase shaped when mature. Performs best with only morning sun or filtered sun and is an excellent, bright accent to any shady landscape.

**'Crimson Queen'** is one of the best known, red, laceleaf trees. It has finely dissected, red leaves that are absolutely beautiful with a very strong weeping form. Leaves do tend to get green overtones as summer progresses due to the heat. Fall color is scarlet red. Mature height is 10ft by 12ft wide. They will grow in shade to sun, but might get tip burn in full sun, especially at young age.



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**'Emperor I'** (Emperor one) is an upright growing red leaf maple that is very much like 'Bloodgood.' It is a little more of an aggressive grower than 'Bloodgood' and leafs out a few weeks later, making it less susceptible to late frosts. Mature height can reach 30ft. Grows well in full sun, but will tolerate some shade.

**'Glowing Embers'** is an award winning Japanese maple from Dr. Micheal Dirrs' plant evaluation program at the University of Georgia. It is an upright green leaf with brilliant fall color that makes a beautiful small shade tree with a dense canopy. It can grow to 30-40ft tall and thrives in full sun.

**'Inaba shidare'** is a great purple-red laceleaf for the Southeast that holds its color well into the summer. The 'Inaba shidare' has a more vigorous growth habit than many others, giving it a more architectural appearance. Mature height is 12ft. It grows well in our heat, but needs only morning or filtered sun.

**'Orange Dream'** provides a beautiful, unique, spring display of dark orange, which turns to yellow edged in orange, then changes to bright yellow green as spring progresses. 'Orange Dream' is great to brighten-up a shady area in the yard. It forms a bushy upright shrub to twelve feet and does best in only morning or filtered sun.

**'Orangeola'** performs well in the heat and humidity of the Southeast. It has coarsely dissected leaves that emerge a red-orange, but can be red-purple as well. Leaves become reddish-green as summer progresses, providing a background for a second flush of red. 'Orangeola' is a vigorous grower when young, and has strong, draping branches that form a mound up to ten feet. Will handle full or partial sun.

**'Osaka zuki'** provides a wonderful display in the spring as fresh leaves emerge in light green bathed in pastel tones of pinks and yellow. 'Osaki zuki' have large leaves with attractive, ovate lobes tapering to a point. They have outstanding fire-red fall color that is unforgettable. This variety will grow to around 24ft tall, and will tolerate full sun to partial shade.

**'Red Dragon'** is a great choice for a weeping type that does not get too big. They have deep purple dissected leaves on dark purple branches. 'Red Dragon' holds its purple color in both full sun and shaded conditions. It is a very slow growing, compact tree that grows to 8ft by 8ft. It will grow in full to partial sun, but might benefit from a little afternoon shade.



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'**Sango kaku**' is also known as the Coral Bark maple because of the beautiful red-toned bark it develops in the winter. This colorful bark adds some interest when there are not many plants looking vibrant in the landscape. Leaves emerge a refreshing light green with reddish tinges in the spring. They grow extremely upright with a spreading top canopy when mature. Fall color is predominantly yellows with some reds and oranges. Tree will grow to 24ft tall, and does well in full sun to partial shade.

'**Seiryu**' is unusual because it is an upright green laceleaf. This variety has an airy, upright form and is a very vigorous grower. They have beautiful, crimson and red fall color. They do well in the Southeast, can grow to around 24ft tall, and do well in full to partial sun.

'**Scolopendrifolium**' is a beautiful selection with light green leaves that are very thin and long. They look somewhat like bamboo leaves that change to red shades in the fall. They are excellent for giving any yard a more exotic feel because of their leaf structure. They can grow to around 20ft and do best in filtered sun conditions.

'**Shaina**' is a red leaf Japanese maple that has a very compact, globe shaped growth habit. It has small leaves that emerge bright red in spring, then change to more of a purple that holds very well into summer with crimson fall color. Its mature size is around 10ft by 10ft, and does best in only morning sun or filtered sun.

'**Tamuke yama**' is an excellent larger growing lace leaf with a strong cascading growth habit that can mature up to 13ft tall. It holds up well in the heat and humidity of the Southeast. They have dissected leaves that emerge a crimson-red in spring, soon changing to purple-red. 'Tamuke yama' holds this color very well into summer and fall color is crimson-red.