

Native to Japan, these maples have been developed and selected for superior traits since the 1600's. Over the years the Japanese have shared their wealth of knowledge with plant enthusiasts worldwide who also appreciate the beauty, diversity and functionality of this remarkable group of plants. Here, the term "Japanese maple" describes cultivated varieties of *Acer palmatum*, *Acer japonicum* and *Acer shirasawanum*.



Acer palmatum



Acer palmatum
(cutleaf)



Acer japonicum
Acer shirasawanum

The ideal exposure for Japanese maples is morning sun and afternoon shade, although filtered sun or part sun locations also work. The stunning seasonal leaf colors Japanese maples are so well-known for are best achieved in full sun, but leaves may burn or discolor when exposed to hot afternoon sun. Heavy shade tends to diminish the leaf colors. To help minimize winter injury areas sheltered from winter winds are best. Japanese maples are adaptable to different soils as long as they are not compacted or waterlogged. Amend compacted soil with coarse organic matter and maintain a 2-3" layer of mulch over the root zone. Keep roots evenly moist with a uniform supply of moisture.

Acer palmatum

Name	Form	HxW*	Description
Asahi zuru	Vase Shaped	10'x6'	Pink, green and creamy white variegated foliage. Best leaf color if protected from hot afternoon sun and wind.
Beni maiko	Rounded	6'x6'	Spring foliage emerges fire engine-red turning pinkish red with green in summer. Compact, well-branched form is perfect for smaller gardens.
Bloodgood Crimson Prince Emperor I	Vase Shaped	12'x8'	The attributes of these varieties are similar. Burgundy red leaves turning shades of scarlet and orange in fall. Bloodgood is the original, and still most popular, variety. Crimson Prince has slightly deeper colored leaves. Emperor I leafs out 2 weeks later, reducing the risk of injury from late spring frosts.
Higasa yama	Vase Shaped	12'x8'	Spring leaves emerge pink then slowly turn a creamy color surrounded by green. Plant this beauty close-up to appreciate the changing color. Best protected from hot afternoon sun and wind.
Katsura	Rounded	8'x8'	Small leaves open brilliant yellow-orange turning green in summer. Soft orange and yellow colors return in fall. Excellent specimen for small gardens.
Koto-no-ito	Rounded	8'x8'	Koto no ito means 'harp strings', a reference to the string-like (linearlobum) foliage. Spring leaves are tinged red, turning green in summer then golden yellow in fall. Eye-catching bright green bark. Ideal for smaller gardens.
Oridono nishiki	Vase Shaped	10'x6'	Spring foliage is bright pink turning green with creamy markings in summer. Many combinations of color can occur. Remove any green-leaved twigs. Best protected from hot afternoon sun and wind.

*The sizes listed are based on a 10 year average in the growing conditions of northeast Illinois.

Acer palmatum (cont)

Name	Form	HxW	Description
Osakazuki	Vase Shaped	12'x8'	One of the best Japanese maples for fall color. Green summer leaves turn brilliant crimson red in fall, the amazing color often lasting for weeks.
Red Wood	Upright	12'x8'	Coral Bark maple. Light yellow-green foliage turns golden yellow in fall. Young branches and twigs are a striking salmon coral color in winter, turning yellowish red in summer.
Ryusen	Weeping	10'x4'	Narrow, true weeping form. Green leaves in summer turning bright yellow and orange in fall. May be trained on a trellis or allowed to spill gracefully over a wall.
Sango kaku	Upright	12'x8'	Coral Bark maple. Young branches and twigs are a striking salmon coral color in winter, turning yellowish red in summer. Green leaves turn golden yellow in fall.
Shirazz	Vase Shaped	10'x6'	Leaves are a striking, complex blend of pink and green with creamy white margins turning crimson in fall. Form is upright, the branches arching gracefully with age. Best protected from hot afternoon sun and wind.
Shishigashira	Rounded	8'x8'	Lion's Head maple. Short, stout branches with dark green, densely tufted leaves turning shades of gold and red in fall. Compact and slow growing. Ideal for smaller gardens and bonsai.
Ukigumo	Vase Shaped	10'x6'	Variegated leaves in a complex blend of pink, green and creamy white create a stunning display in spring. Best protected from hot afternoon sun and wind.

Acer palmatum - Cutleaf (lace-leaf)

Crimson Princess	Mounded	5'x5'	Deeply cut leaves emerge wine red turning orange-red in fall. Cascading branches create a graceful specimen.
Crimson Queen	Mounded	5'x5'	The persistence of good, deep purple-red leaf color distinguishes this variety from other cutleaves. The leaves turn various shades of red in fall.
Emerald Lace	Mounded	5'x5'	Pale green summer leaves turn bright red in fall. With its lovely color and soft texture, this maple makes a perfect specimen.
Garnet	Mounded	6'x8'	The somewhat coarse, dark gemstone red leaves develop best color in sun, becoming purple green in shade. Fall color is bright red.
Green Cutleaf	Mounded	5'x5'	Finely dissected bright green leaves maintain their fresh color all summer until turning burnt golden orange in fall.
Inaba shidare	Mounded	5'x5'	Deep purple-red leaves are large for a cutleaf, turning crimson in fall. Cascading branches create a graceful form.
Red Dragon	Mounded	5'x5'	Finely dissected leaves are a non-fading purple, even when growing in shade. Flaming scarlet fall color. Graceful cascading form.
Scolopendrifolium	Upright	12'x12'	Leaf lobes are long and very narrow, imparting a delicate cascading effect. Leaves emerge bronzy in spring, turning bright green in summer then golden yellow in fall.
Seiryu	Rounded	15'x15'	The only truly upright form of cutleaf Japanese maple. Small, lacy leaves emerge red-tipped in spring maturing to green in summer then turning gold, orange and red in the fall.
Tamuke yama	Mounded	5'x5'	Tends to be more upright than Crimson Queen. Scorch-resistant burgundy foliage. Long cascading branches make this an ideal specimen.
Waterfall	Mounded	6'x6'	Bright green leaves are slightly larger than Green Cutleaf's with a longer, more flowing appearance as they spill down outer branches of mature plants. Fall color is gold and red.

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Acer japonicum, Acer shirasawanum - Fullmoon

Name	Form	HxW	Description
Aconitifolium	Rounded	8'x8'	Deeply cut dark green leaves turning an array of green, yellow, orange and red in fall.
Attaryi	Rounded	8'x8'	Pendulous, purple-red spring flowers start the show. Deeply cleft, almost round leaves are larger than Aconitifolium's. Fall color is crimson red.
Autumn Moon	Rounded	10'x10'	Green leaves have a pink to purple tint throughout the growing season. Orange fall color.
Golden Fullmoon	Rounded	8'x12'	Distinctly lobed leaves are golden yellow in summer turning orange in fall.
Green Cascade	Mounded	8'x8'	Dark green leaves are similar in shape to Aconitifolium's, but smaller, the lobes deeply incised almost to the leaf base. Orange-red fall color. Graceful, weeping and cascading habit.
Jordan	Rounded	10'x10'	Foliage emerges bright yellow in spring turning yellow-green in summer. Decorative red seeds accent the foliage in summer.
Rising Sun	Upright	8'x8'	Uncommonly large (up to 8"), heavily textured green leaves have an almost tropical appearance. Fall color is red, yellow and orange. A strong grower.

Acer x pseudosieboldianum - Korean

Arctic Jade	Upright	18'x10'	New hybrid maple combining the hardiness and durability of Korean maple with the beauty of Japanese maple. This vigorous tree is larger, with more upright branching than typical Japanese maple. The deeply lobed, green summer leaves catch fire in fall showing dazzling tones of orange and red.
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