

Growing Maples

Maples are very popular in the landscape, and there are many different types and varieties available. Maples can be large canopy trees or they can be shorter understory plants with multiple stems. No matter which type you choose, a maple can provide shade, privacy and aesthetic appeal to any property.

When planting large maples it is important to consider the site. Maples have very wide canopies and root systems. Ensure that there are no overhead lines and that the tree is not planted too close to your foundation.

The most confusing part about maples is when one wants a "Red Maple".

***Acer rubrum* - Red Maple**

This maple is actually green during the growing season and turning fiery tones of red for the fall. This is not usually the tree wanted when people ask for a "Red Maple" (Zone 4).

***Acer platanoides* - Norway Maple**

Depending on the varieties these trees can be green or red during the growing season. For example, Crimson King and Deborah varieties are red/purple while Emerald Queen is green (Zone 3).

***Acer ginnala* - Amur Maple**

This is a shrub maple with multiple stems. It is a great understory plant. It has green summer foliage turning brilliant scarlet in the fall. It is great for creating privacy (Zone 2).

***Acer x freemanii* "Jeffersred"- Autumn Blaze Maple**

This maple is a hybrid of a silver and red maple. It is green in the fall turning beautiful red in the fall. It has beautiful grey bark and red branches (Zone 3).

***Acer japonica*, *Acer palmatum* - Japanese Maples**

These beautiful small trees come in a wide variety of colours, and shapes. Be advised that Japanese Maples are more susceptible to winter damage than other maples (Zone 6).

