

Botanical Name: Acer palmatum

Common Name: Japanese maple

Type of Plant: dicot: tree/shrub Character deciduous

Habit of Growth:

Overall Shape irregular, multi-trunked plant, tending to be shrubby when young; eventually develops into small tree with loose rounded canopy; grafted forms vary in foliage patterns and growth

Height 10-20' (30') Spread 2/3 to equal Growth Rate slow

Environment:

Exposure outdoor partial sun (full sun in NW), avoid hot full-sun locations

Soil an acidic, moist, well-draining loam; avoid dry soils

Hardiness hardy (zones 1-9, 14-24); prefers mild humid/coast

Morphology:

Leaves palmate, opposite, deeply 5-9 lobed; 2-4" long, bright green, the petioles are 1/2-2" long

Flowers inconspicuous, purple corymbs; erect, appearing after the leaves; March-April

Fruit a 2-winged samara: 3/4" long, glabrous (lacking hairs)

Propagation: seed (for particular varieties, follow with grafting)

Usage: a beautiful small accent tree prized for picturesque form and foliage; excellent for patios, bonsai, groves; used for rustic, oriental or temperate-climate landscape themes

Landscape Care:

Watering regular irrigation required; not drought tolerant

Fertilizing balanced in spring; add iron to correct chlorosis

Pruning prune to shape desired; irregular trunk shape (picturesque)

Pests/Diseases salt burn in heavy clay soils

Special Conditions

Origin: Japan Family: Aceraceae