

Japanese Maples

There are many many varieties of Japanese Maples but they can basically be divided into 2 groups: 1.Cutleaf (weeping) 'Dissectum' and 2.Broadleaf (upright) 'Palmatum'

Cutleaf Varieties

Delicate lacy foliage cascades over the mounding habit throughout the growing season. Foliage then turns a brighter red in Fall. Very slow growing reaching up to apx. 10' tall in 10 years with a slightly larger spread. Prefers dappled shade or morning sun/afternoon shade. Too much sun may scorch delicate foliage but too little sun will result in a weaker red foliage.

Notable cultivars:

<u>Crimson Queen</u>: 1 of the most popular choices of the weeping varieties. Holds red color well throughout the Summer

Inabe Shidare (Red Select): Also a weeping variety but *more erect* in appearance than other weepers.

Tamukeyama: Mounding habit growing 4'-6' tall and slightly wider.

<u>Viridis</u>: Same attributes as other cutleaf cultivars except this variety retains bright *green* leaves throughout the season until changing to orange/red in Fall.

Palmatum (broadleaf) varieties

Available with either green or red leaves. This group is generally more tolerant of sun, has a broad, palmate (shape of a hand) leaf,grows much larger than the weeping varieties and has an upright spreading habit. These will show a slow growth rate and multiple cultivars are available. However <u>Bloodgood</u> has become the preferred variety by most.

Bloodgood: Dark burgundy foliage that holds well throughout the Summer. Mature size 15'-25' with rounded or vase shape. Fall color red.