

# Autumn Colour



With autumn now in its full glory, the colours of the autumn leaves add a spectacular dimension to our streets and gardens. Whether you have a small urban space or a sprawling property, there are many options for adding autumn colour to your garden. The maples are a large group of ornamental trees that have spectacular autumn colour and come in a variety of shapes and sizes to suit any garden. Here are but a few options to consider.

## Japanese Maple

The Japanese Maple is an extremely popular tree in suburban gardens where space may be limited. It is a small, spreading tree that will grow to around the height of a single storey house. The delicate foliage provides soft, dappled, shade in summer and beautiful colours of orange, scarlet and yellow in autumn. There are several varieties of Japanese Maple on the market. Options include variegated foliage, burgundy foliage and a form with red stems that makes it a striking feature in the garden even when it is without its leaves. The Weeping Japanese Maple is another popular form. Because the plants are grafted on to a standard stem they only reach height of around 1 to 1.5 m. This compact size and beautiful weeping form make them a versatile and striking addition to the garden. The autumn colours include orange, red and yellow. The burgundy foliage form, known as 'Dissectum Atropurpureum', is a particular favourite to many.

## Full Moon Maple

The Full Moon Maple is not as commonly known as its Japanese cousins but is well worth consideration. It is another small growing maple

with beautiful large, heavily lobed leaves that give a layered look to the tree. The autumn colour is a brilliant scarlet red and the leaves hold on the tree well into the season.

## Red Maple

The Red Maples, such as 'October Glory', 'Fairview Flame' and 'Sun Valley', are a group of larger maples that grow to around the height of a three storey building. The trees have an upright form and sensational seasonal colours of red, pink and gold. They are an excellent option for larger gardens and make a stunning avenue along driveways.

So, if you are considering adding some autumn colour to your garden, then the maples provide a wide variety of options to choose from and there is certainly one to suit most situations. Now is the time to check out the full range of maples at your local plant nursery and get advice on which is best for you.



Red Maple

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