



Japanese Maple, Bloodgood

Acer palmatum 'Bloodgood'

Height: 15 feet

Spread: 15 feet

Sunlight: ●

Hardiness Zone: 5a

Description:

Possibly the most popular of all feature trees for the home landscape, with rich burgundy-purple palm-shaped foliage all season long and a very artistic spreading growth habit. Needs afternoon shade and wind protection.

Ornamental Features

Japanese Maple, Bloodgood is primarily valued in the landscape for its ornamental globe-shaped form. It features subtle corymbs of red flowers rising above the foliage in mid spring before the leaves. It has attractive burgundy deciduous foliage which emerges deep purple in spring. The lobed palmate leaves are highly ornamental and turn an outstanding scarlet in the fall. The rough gray bark and red branches add an interesting dimension to the landscape.

Landscape Attributes

Japanese Maple, Bloodgood is a deciduous tree with a more or less rounded form. Its relatively fine texture sets it apart from other landscape plants with less refined foliage.

This is a relatively low maintenance tree, and can be pruned at anytime. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Japanese Maple, Bloodgood is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Accent
- Shade



Japanese Maple, Bloodgood
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder



Japanese Maple, Bloodgood foliage
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder



Planting & Growing

Japanese Maple, Bloodgood will grow to be about 15 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 15 feet. It has a high canopy with a typical clearance of 6 feet from the ground, and is suitable for planting under power lines. As it matures, the lower branches of this tree can be strategically removed to create a high enough canopy to support unobstructed human traffic underneath. It grows at a slow rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for 80 years or more.

This tree should be grown in a location with partial shade or which is shaded from the hot afternoon sun. It prefers to grow in average to moist conditions, and shouldn't be allowed to dry out. This plant should be periodically fertilized throughout the active growing season with a specially-formulated acidic fertilizer. It is not particular as to soil pH, but grows best in rich soils. It is somewhat tolerant of urban pollution, and will benefit from being planted in a relatively sheltered location. Consider applying a thick mulch around the root zone in winter to protect it in exposed locations or colder microclimates. This is a selected variety of a species not originally from North America.

Special Attributes

Japanese maples generally produce a few to no seeds called samaras, which are commonly referred to as helicopters 1/2 to 3/4 of an inch long, and approximately 1/4 inch wide. Growing in pairs, they start green then mature red during the growing season