



Maple, (Red) Red Sunset

Acer rubrum 'Franksred'

Height: 45 feet

Spread: 35 feet

Sunlight: ○

Hardiness Zone: 4b

Other Names: Swamp Maple, Scarlet Maple

Description:

A very desirable cultivar of the red maple with a pronounced pyramidal form and reliable red fall color; distinctive form and rich colors make this a choice shade tree, ideal for larger landscapes;

Ornamental Features

Maple, (Red) Red Sunset is primarily valued in the landscape for its distinctively pyramidal habit of growth. It features showy clusters of red flowers along the branches in early spring before the leaves. It has green deciduous foliage which emerges red in spring. The lobed leaves turn an outstanding red in the fall. The furrowed silver bark and brick red branches add an interesting dimension to the landscape.

Landscape Attributes

Maple, (Red) Red Sunset is a deciduous tree with a distinctive and refined pyramidal form. Its average texture blends into the landscape, but can be balanced by one or two finer or coarser trees or shrubs for an effective composition.

This is a relatively low maintenance tree, and is best pruned in late winter once the threat of extreme cold has passed. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Maple, (Red) Red Sunset is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Accent
- Shade
- Vertical Accent



Maple, (Red) Red Sunset in fall
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder



Maple, (Red) Red Sunset in fall
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder



Planting & Growing

Maple, (Red) Red Sunset will grow to be about 45 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 35 feet. It has a high canopy with a typical clearance of 7 feet from the ground, and should not be planted underneath 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 medium rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for 80 years or more.

This tree should only be grown in full sunlight. It is quite adaptable, preferring to grow in average to wet conditions, and will even tolerate some standing water. This plant should be periodically fertilized throughout the active growing season with a specially-formulated acidic fertilizer. It is not particular as to soil type, but has a definite preference for acidic soils, and is subject to chlorosis (yellowing) of the foliage in alkaline soils. It is somewhat tolerant of urban pollution. This is a selection of a native North American species.



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Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder*