# Crape Myrtle, Dynamite Tree

***Lagerstroemia indica 'Whit II'***

Height: 15 feet

Spread: 15 feet

Sunlight: ○ ◐

Hardiness Zone: 6b

Other Names: Crape Myrtle, Crepe Myrtle

**Description:**

This attractive ornamental shrub or small tree produces volumes of deep red frilly blooms in summer, followed by vibrant orange-red fall foliage; captivating focal point for the garden or border; also good for container planting



*Crape Myrtle, Dynamite Tree flowers*
*Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder*

**Ornamental Features**

Crape Myrtle, Dynamite Tree is draped in stunning panicles of red frilly flowers at the ends of the branches from early to late summer. It has attractive dark green deciduous foliage which emerges coppery-bronze in spring. The oval leaves are highly ornamental and turn orange in fall.

**Landscape Attributes**

Crape Myrtle, Dynamite Tree is a dense multi-stemmed deciduous tree with an upright spreading habit of growth. Its relatively fine texture sets it apart from other landscape plants with less refined foliage.

This is a relatively low maintenance tree, and is best pruned in late winter once the threat of extreme cold has passed. It is a good choice for attracting birds and bees to your yard. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Crape Myrtle, Dynamite Tree is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Accent
- Mass Planting
- Hedges/Screening
- General Garden Use



*Crape Myrtle, Dynamite Tree in bloom*
*Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder*

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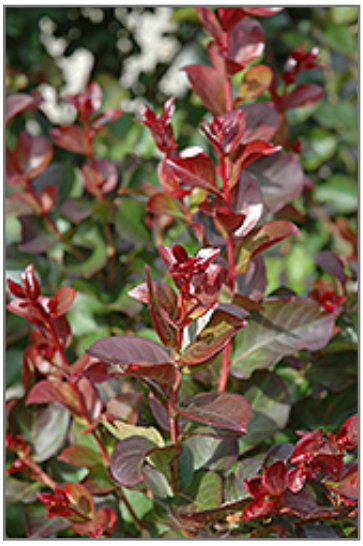
**Planting & Growing**

Crape Myrtle, Dynamite Tree will grow to be about 15 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 15 feet. It has a low canopy with a typical clearance of 3 feet from the ground, and is suitable for planting under power lines. It grows at a fast rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for approximately 20 years.

This tree does best in full sun to partial shade. 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 very fussy about its soil conditions and must have rich, acidic soils to ensure success, and is subject to chlorosis (yellowing) of the foliage in alkaline soils. It is highly tolerant of urban pollution and will even thrive in inner city environments. This is a selected variety of a species not originally from North America.

Clean up Rating (1-5) 1=least effort 5=most effort

Clean Up Rating (1): Blooms are in clusters during summer. Seeds are clusters of pea sized fruit birds eat during winter. The fruit and leaves can be blown or raked onto the lawn and mowed or bagged.



*Crape Myrtle, Dynamite Tree foliage*
*Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder*