

Red Maple

Acer rubrum

The outstanding ornamental characteristic of red maple is red, orange, or yellow fall color lasting several weeks. It is often one of the first trees to color up in autumn but trees vary greatly in fall color and intensity. This tree is sometimes confused with red-leaved cultivars of Norway maple. Red maple has an oval shape and is a fast grower with strong wood, reaching a height of 75 feet. The newly emerging leaves and red flowers and fruits signal that spring has come. The seeds of red maple are quite popular with squirrels and birds. Unless irrigated or on a wet site red maple is best used north of hardiness zone 9. Trees are often much shorter in the southern part of its range unless growing next to a stream or on a wet site. When planting this species select only those which have been grown from seed sources in your area. This tree is preferred over silver maple or boxelder when a fast growing maple is needed.

Type: large tree

USDA hardiness zones: 4A through 9B

Uses: highway median; screen; shade; deck or patio; reclamation; street without sidewalk;

Origin: native to the Eastern United States, neighboring Canadian provinces, and Newfoundland

Height: 60 to 75 feet **Spread:** 25 to 35 feet

Light requirement: full sun to part shade

Soil tolerances: clay; sand; loam; acidic; extended flooding; well-drained

Drought tolerance: moderate

Aerosol salt tolerance: low

Verticillium wilt susceptibility: susceptible

Pest resistance: resistant to pests/diseases

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Photo: UF/ IFAS