

# MAPLES – THE LARGER VARIETIES

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## Acer x freemanii ‘Autumn Blaze’ (‘Jeffersred’) – Autumn Blaze Maple

**Height:** 50’      **Width:** 40’      **Growth Rate:** Fast  
**Shape:** Upright, broad oval      **Fall color:** Brilliant Orange-red

Autumn Blaze’ is actually one of a few hybrids between the Red and Silver maples. It got the outstanding fall color and growth habit from the Red, and the fine-textured leaf, drought tolerance, and all around toughness from the Silver. A great newer tree.

## Acer x freemanii ‘Autumn Fantasy’ (‘DTR 102’) – Autumn Fantasy Maple

Similar to ‘Autumn Blaze’, but with a more crimson red fall color. The leaves strongly resemble a Silver Maple.

## Acer platanoides – Norway Maple

**Height:** 45’      **Width:** 40’      **Growth Rate:** Rapid  
**Shape:** Rounded      **Fall color:** Yellow

The Norway Maple was actually brought to America in colonial times, and has become a favorite over the years. It is a fast growing, tough tree. The Norway Maple also has many specialized cultivars, each with a different look and use, but this is the original. Below are listed our varieties, all will have the same attributes of the regular Norway Maple except where differences are noted.

- **A. platanoides ‘Columnare’ – Columnar Norway Maple**  
 Height: 35’    Width: 15’    Shape: Narrow, columnar, upright  
 A good columnar tree for tight spots, wind blocks, or a tall hedge
- **A. platanoides ‘Crimson King’ – Crimson King Maple**  
 Height: 40’    Width: 35’    Foliage: Deep Red    Fall Color: Bronze  
 This tree will actually grow faster than the species in youth. Its massive leaves-probably the biggest of any maple- are a deep crimson-purple. Popular.
- **A. platanoides ‘Crimson Sentry’ – Crimson Sentry Maple**  
 Height: 25’    Width: 15’  
 ‘Crimson Sentry’ is a much smaller, denser, and narrower ‘Crimson King’
- **A. platanoides ‘Drummondii’ – Silver Variegated Norway Maple**  
 Height: 35’    Width: 25’    Foliage: Green, White variegation around edges  
 Grown for its variegated foliage, this tree is very striking in a landscape. It may try to revert to a green form, be sure to cut those pieces out as you see them.
- **A. platanoides ‘Emerald Queen’ – Emerald Queen Norway Maple**  
 Height: 50’    Width: 40’  
 ‘Emerald Queen’ is considered by many to be the perfect shade tree in the Norway Maple group. It is very tough, vigorous, well-formed tree.
- **A. platanoides ‘Emerald Lustre’ (‘Pond’) – Emerald Lustre Norway Maple**  
 Height: 45’    Width: 40’  
 ‘Emerald Lustre’ is another good shade tree, which tends to branch well in youth.
- **\*A. platanoides ‘Princeton Gold’ – Princeton Gold Norway Maple**  
 Height: 35’    Width: 30’    Foliage: Bright Yellow  
 This is a unique tree with bright yellow leaves through the growing season!!

## Acer pseudoplatanus ‘Spaethii’ (‘Atropurpureum’, ‘Purpureum’) – Spaeth Sycamore (Planetree) Maple

**Height:** 40’-60’ (100’)      **Width:** 25’+      **Growth Rate:** Medium, 1.5’-2’ a year  
**Shape:** Oval-round      **Fall Color:** Brown-yellow

The Sycamore Maples are not common in the US, but a few cultivars, like this one, are well worth growing. Sycamore Maples are tough trees, growing in very poor soils (they are very salt/drought tolerant). The thick leathery leaves are very durable, and Spaeth has an interesting leaf attribute. The leaf tops are a deep green, while the undersides are a rich purple, giving a unique bicolor effect depending on where you view the tree from.

## Acer rubrum – Red Maple (Scarlet Maple, Swamp Maple)

**Height:** 40’      **Width:** 40’      **Water needs:** Will need extra water, especially when young  
**Shape:** Round      **Growth Rate:** Fast      **Fall color:** Red to yellow, varies.

The Red Maple is another popular species, native to pretty much everywhere, and very well adapted to our western climate. The Red Maple does not actually have red leaves all the time, that is actually in reference to its

fall color and red flower. This tree tends to have a very uniform rounded growth habit, and is very much at home in wet conditions (hence the name swamp maple). On one note, if you need red fall color, either pick a named cultivar or pick your tree in fall, as some species Red Maples will have yellow fall color. The Red Maple is parent to some very popular cultivars, which are listed below. All varieties have red fall color.

- **A. rubrum 'Armstrong' (really A. x freemanii) – Armstrong Columnar Red Maple**  
Height: 45' Width: 15' Growth habit: Narrow, columnar  
A very popular columnar variety. Large leaves, orange-red (some yellows) fall color.
- **A. rubrum 'Autumn Flame' – Autumn Flame Red Maple**  
Height: 35' Width: 35'  
The first red maple to color in the fall.
- **A. rubrum 'Burgundy Belle' ('Magnificent Magenta') --Burgundy Belle Red Maple**  
Height: 35' Width: 35'  
A newer variety which is very drought resistant and has deep burgundy fall color
- **A. rubrum 'Red Sunset' ('Franksred') – Red Sunset Maple**  
Height: 45' Width: 35'  
Considered by many to be THE shade tree, this tree is extremely popular. It's growth habit is more upright, and very uniform. It has a very nice silvery-green bark. Its foliage is a dark glossy green, turning to brilliant orange-red in fall. This tree will generally always get good fall color even when other trees don't, regardless of the climate or weather. An excellent tree.

#### **Acer saccharinum 'Silver Queen' – Silver Queen Silver Maple (Soft maple, White maple, River Maple)**

**Height:** 50' **Width:** 40' **Shape:** Oval with upright spreading branches

**Growth Rate:** Rapid **Fall color:** Yellow

The Silver Queen Maple is a much improved cultivar of Silver Maple. It has a good upright branching pattern. The leaves on the silver maple are more deeply cut than many others, giving it a lacy appearance. This tree is very drought tolerant, and probably one of the tougher trees available.

#### **Acer saccharum – Sugar Maple (Hard Maple, Rock Maple)**

**Height:** 45' **Width:** 40' **Fall color:** Orange-red-scarlet depending on tree/variety

**Shape:** Upright oval-rounded **Growth rate:** Moderate

The Sugar Maple is the East coast maple that brightens up the New England countryside in fall. It's also the one they use to make maple syrup. For the homeowner, it is a stately, long-lived shade tree that is tough as nails and nice to look at in the fall.

- **Acer saccharum 'Green Mountain' – Green Mountain Sugar Maple**  
Height: 45' Width: 35' Fall color: Reddish-orange  
Green Mountain is an improved variety of Sugar Maple that is considered to be the benchmark when comparing Sugar maple varieties. Very hardy, reliable. Reddish-orange fall color.
- **Acer saccharum 'Legacy' (PP 4979) – Legacy Sugar Maple**  
'Legacy' is similar to 'Green Mountain', but ending up a bit taller (50'), and has a glossier leaf. Sometimes has some yellow fall coloration. The leaves on 'Legacy' are thicker than most sugar maples, making them very durable.

#### **Acer truncatum x platanoides 'Norwegian Sunset' ('Keithsform') --Norwegian Sunset Maple**

**Height:** 35' **Width:** 25' **Fall color:** Yellow Orange-Red. Outstanding!

**Shape:** Oval **Growth Rate:** Moderate

The Norwegian Sunset Maple is one of a group of great hybrids between the Norway Maple (*Acer platanoides*), and Shantung Chinese Maple (*Acer truncatum*). The result is a wonderful medium-sized shade tree with a polite growth habit, beautiful foliage both in the regular season and fall, and hardiness rivaling just about any other tree on the market. This tree is taller than wide with a very uniform branch pattern. The leaves are similar to Norway Maple, but have a glossy deep green color. The fall color will vary, depending on the sun intensity on the particular leaf, from yellowish-orange to red.

#### **Acer truncatum x platanoides 'Pacific Sunset' ('Warrenred') -- Pacific Sunset Maple**

**Height:** 30' **Width:** 25' **Fall color:** Yellow-orange to bright red

**Shape:** Upright spreading, rounded **Growth rate:** Moderate

The Pacific Sunset Maple is another Norway/Shantung maple hybrid. A lot like the Norwegian Sunset hybrid, but this variety tends to be a bit more spreading/rounded and finer textured. The leaves are glossier than on the Norwegian sunset. The Pacific Sunset Maple tends to color up a bit earlier in the fall than the Norwegian Sunset, and the color is more intense! Fall color on this tree will vary from yellow-orange to an almost burgundy red color. One of the best medium-sized shade trees available today!