

Sugar Maple Tree



Hardiness Zones: 4-8, habit: deciduous, growth rate: slow, site requirements: sun to partial shade; prefers evenly moist, well drained soil. Texture: Medium, form: conical to round crown; dense foliage. height: 50 to 75', width: 30 to 45'.

Sugar maple Leaf: 3 to 6" opposite, simple leaf with 3 to 5 lobes; excellent fall color - yellow, orange and red tones. Flower/Fruit: Small greenish yellow flowers in early spring.

Does not do well in a restricted root zone situation; tolerates shade better than most maples; leaf scorch may develop with drought; moderate pollution tolerance.

Instructions:

1. Soak in a hot tap water bath for 24 hours, be careful not more, rotting could occur
2. For the best results refrigerate the seeds for 90 days for a full stratification.
3. Prepare the 6-inch pots by filling them with organic-potting soil.
4. Press two or three seeds into the organic-potting soil about one quarter of an inch deep. Pat the soil on the top of the seeds.
5. Mist the top of the soil daily for three to five months. Keep the soil moist, but not wet. Place the pots in a sunny spot with a lot of indirect sunlight.
6. Keep the seeds and seedlings warm for the three- to five-month-germination period. The ideal temperature should be consistently 75 degrees Fahrenheit.
7. Once the trees have sprouted and are about a foot tall, choose the strongest one and discard the rest. The strongest is usually the tallest, but if a tall one only has a few leaves, it may be better to take the one with the most leaves.
8. Transplant the seedlings the fall after they have grown for a full year. Choose a spot where the tree will get plenty of sunlight and will have enough room to mature.

Tips & Warnings:

- Use a plant light or heating pad to keep the correct temperature.
- Do not plant a sugar maple tree too close to buildings. These trees get over 100 feet tall, and the roots can cause serious damage to building foundations, septic systems and other underground utilities. Remember if a tree spans 60 feet wide at the top, the roots span that wide underground.