

The Japanese Garden Centre's "how to..

..Look after a Japanese Maple"

Japanese Maples are versatile. They can be planted in the ground or in containers. The best time to plant is in Autumn. Ensure the tree is planted a minimum of four weeks before the ground is set to freeze during the winter. If kept in a pot then the lowest temperature they can tolerate is -5 degrees C.

Although Acers are known to grow anywhere, they prefer dappled shade. Areas that are exposed to morning sun and afternoon shade are ideal. This stops the plants from losing too much moisture from their leaves.

Mulch your Acer with shredded bark roughly 6cm deep. This will help prevent water evaporating from the soil around the roots. During the winter mulch also helps protect the roots from the cold. Leave a slight gap between the mulch and trunk to help air circulation.

The soil needs to be consistently moist, so look to water the Acer deeply once or twice a week and make sure the soil is free draining. In drought conditions the Acer (especially newly planted Acers) may require more frequent watering. Look to prune your Acer late summer/early autumn. Sap does not run from cuts during this period, which helps protect the Acer from diseases.

For any more tips on how to look after your Japanese Maple, or if you have any questions, please contact us.

