

Trident Maple



Hardiness Zones: 5-8, Habit: Deciduous, Growth Rate: Slow to moderate, Site Requirements: Sun; well drained soil; tolerates dry, infertile sites, Texture: Medium Form: Upright; rounded crown, Height: 25 to 35', Width: 20 to 30'.

Leaf: 1.5 to 3.5" opposite, simple leaf with 3 lobes; new growth often bronze to purple; yellow, orange, red fall color; colors later than most maples

Tolerant of wind, salt, drought, air pollution, and soil compaction; may suffer breakage with ice storms; fall color varies greatly; possible tree for restricted root zone sites; with age bark exfoliates revealing gray, orange, brown color; does not develop leaf scorch during drought.

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. Select your planting site. Trident maples are small trees and don't need much space. They respond well to pruning, root pruning and container gardening. If you plan on intense cultivation, such as bonsai, select a small planting area; it depends on how much time you intend to spend cultivating your tree.
4. Prepare your trident maple seeds for planting by washing them in an anti-fungal solution to prevent molds and other fungi from taking over the seed.
5. Plant the seeds in well-draining seed starter mix. Alternatively, you may plant the seeds directly into the earth at the planting site.
6. Maintain optimal growing conditions by keeping temperatures constant and preventing them from going too low. Make sure the soil doesn't dry out or stay too wet. Trident maple seeds should germinate in about two to three months.

Tips & Warnings

- Trident maples like acidic and moist but well-draining soil. You may have to make some adjustments to your soil for best results. They also like full sun and fairly warm temperatures. Freezing temperatures will damage the root system, killing the tree.
- Starting seeds indoors in a container will make it easier to control the temperature in which they grow. You can take containers indoors on extremely cold days or move them to sunny areas for warmth. Trident maples transplant easily, so gardeners can move these trees around and their rapid root growth allows them to establish and re-establish quickly.
- If seeds that have been planted do not germinate within a couple months, you may need to refrigerate the container to trigger the germination process.
- Young plants with growing root systems will need a good amount of water, depending on how large you want your tree to grow.

