



For the joy of gardening!

Estabrook's

PAPERBARK MAPLE CARE

LIGHT

Paperbark maple grows in full sun to partial shade and develops a small to medium tree with an attractive rounded or upright canopy. Allow space for its mature branches rather than planning repeated clipping. Position it where the cinnamon-colored peeling bark can be appreciated through the winter.

WATER

Water slowly through the root ball and surrounding soil after planting. Check moisture regularly and water deeply when needed, keeping the roots evenly moist during establishment. Adjust for rain, soil drainage, and weather instead of following a fixed daily schedule. Newly planted trees need attention before established trees show drought stress.

SOIL & PLANTING

Choose moist, well-drained soil; this species accepts a range of soil textures and pH levels where drainage is adequate. Keep the root flare visible and spread mulch lightly around, not against, the trunk. Avoid compacting the root area or disturbing roots with repeated cultivation and construction.

FEEDING

Use a soil test to guide fertilizer and pH changes. Healthy trees may need no routine feeding. If nutrients are needed, apply a modest amount of tree fertilizer in spring at the label rate. Keep fertilizer off the trunk and avoid heavy nitrogen or late-season feeding that promotes tender growth.

SEASONAL CARE

Develop a sound framework while the tree is young. Remove dead, broken, rubbing, or poorly attached branches selectively, preserving the natural form. Avoid topping and large unnecessary cuts. Maples may drip sap from late-winter or early-spring cuts; schedule elective light pruning for summer after leaves have expanded. Use an arborist for large limbs.

HELPFUL TIPS

Papery curls of exfoliating bark are a normal feature; do not pull them off or scrape the trunk. Growth is relatively slow, so avoid forcing it with heavy fertilizer. Autumn leaf color varies with conditions. Protect the lower trunk from mower and string-trimmer damage and allow the natural bark display to develop.