THREE FLOWER MAPLE CARE

LIGHT

Three-flower maple grows in full sun to partial shade and forms a small tree with a rounded crown or low-branched form. Give it room to mature without frequent reduction. Choose a site with a cool, protected root zone where its peeling bark and autumn foliage can be enjoyed.

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

Provide moist, acidic, well-drained soil. Avoid alkaline, compacted, drought-prone, or waterlogged sites; this tree is less forgiving of these conditions than some other maples. Plant with the root flare visible and mulch lightly away from the trunk. Protect the root area from traffic and soil disturbance.

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

The flowers appear in small groups of three, and exfoliating bark is normal. Do not strip the bark or cut roots to solve space problems. If leaves decline, check drainage, moisture, and soil pH before adding nutrients. Keep its consistent-moisture requirements separate from more drought-tolerant trident and hedge maples.