AMUR AND TATARIAN MAPLE CARE

LIGHT

Amur and Tatarian maples grow in full sun to partial shade, generally with best foliage color in good light. These small trees or large shrubs may be grown with a single trunk or several stems. Allow for the cultivar's mature width; Flame and Hot Wings differ in ornamental features.

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 well-drained soil and keep the root flare visible. These maples accept a range of soils and some drought after establishment, but avoid standing water and repeated drying of a new root ball. Mulch lightly without burying stems, and keep the surrounding ground free of dense weeds.

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

Retain the chosen tree or multi-stemmed form with selective pruning. Remove dead, rubbing, or crowded stems rather than automatically cutting the entire plant back. Make small elective cuts after leaves expand and avoid topping. Check the base and nearby beds for unwanted seedlings and remove them while young.

HELPFUL TIPS

Both groups can spread by seed and become weedy; monitor beyond the immediate planting, especially near natural areas. Red winged fruits are a normal ornamental feature of Hot Wings. Bright fall color varies with weather and light. Established drought tolerance does not mean newly planted trees can be left unwatered.