

# Fireball Japanese Maple



**Goodness,  
Gracious,  
Great Balls  
of Fire!**  
**A bushy  
dwarf tree  
from a  
witches  
broom pro-  
vides bright  
red color in  
a compact  
bush.**

## *Acer palmatum* 'Fireball'

- **Use:** A dwarf maple, this cultivar flushes cherry red in spring. Leaves become deep purple-red, then turn vivid red and orange in fall. Japanese maples are highly desirable for their stunning year-round color, compact size, and versatile, sculptural forms that fit well in small gardens or containers. They are low-maintenance, drought-tolerant, and slow-growing specimen trees that enhance landscapes with four-season color and architectural elegance.
- **Exposure/Soil:** Prefers full sun to part sun. Morning sun with protection from hot sun is best in the South. Water regularly, when top 3 in. of soil is dry. Will not tolerate soggy or extremely dry soil.
- **Growth:** Grows to 4-5' tall and 3' wide in 10 years.
- **Hardiness:** Zone 4a-8, Small Tree
- **Foliage:** Deciduous. The leaves emerge a bright scarlet in early spring, transitioning to a deep maroon by mid-spring, and are topped with new leaf bunches in bright red. With the arrival of cooler temperatures in fall, the leaves turn to vibrant, fiery red. The unusual but beautiful, palmate leaves have a total of five narrow lobes, with four lobes being pointed, as is usual, but the center lobe is rounded at the tip.
- **Flower:** Distinctive double-winged, papery samaras (seed pods), often in bright red, which emerge in spring before leaves and mature for wind dispersal.