

Acer rubrum 'Karpick'

Karpick Red Maple



Acer rubrum 'Karpick' (Karpick Red Maple) is a narrow pyramidal cultivar of the red maple - also known as *Acer rubrum* - and was selected around 1980 by Femrite Nursery, Aurora, Oregon, United States. It was named in honour of Buffalo park superintendent Frank Karpick. 'Karpick' reaches a final height of ten to fifteen metres with a spread of approximately four to six metres. The crown develops into an egg shape with dense branching in later life, making the tree very suitable for narrow streets and avenues.

The leaves of *Acer rubrum* 'Karpick' are palmate-lobed and have a glossy dark green upper side and blue-green underside, with petioles that are strikingly red in colour. In autumn, depending on the location, the foliage changes colour beautifully to various shades of yellow, orange and red. The red male flowers appear around March or April in small clusters and are not spectacular, but they do add colour to the tree at this time of year. Karpick Red Maple is male and does not bear fruit. Its bark is grey, becoming grooved with age: twigs are reddish-brown and grow vertically.

Acer rubrum 'Karpick' is particularly suitable as a street or avenue tree, especially in places with limited space where a narrow, vertical specimen is desired. The selection prefers moist conditions and grows best in normal to humus-rich, well-drained soil. Growth stagnates on highly calcareous soil, and autumn colouration is less intense on dry soils. For optimal development, a location in full sun to partial shade is recommended. *Acer rubrum* 'Karpick' is hardy, but does not like to be planted in paved areas or unprotected locations.

SEASONAL COLOURS



TYPES OF PLANTING

Tree types: standard trees, multi-stemmed trees

USE

Location: avenue, park, central reservation, large garden, cemetery | **Pavement:** none, open | **Planting concepts:** Eco planting

CHARACTERISTICS

Crown shape: narrow pyramidal | **Crown structure:** semi-open | **Height:** 10 - 15 m | **Width:** 4 - 6 m | **Winter hardiness zone:** 4A - 8B

ASPECTS

Wind: intolerant to wind | **Soil:** loess, sabulous clay, peaty, sand, loamy soil | **Nutrient level:** moderately rich in nutrients, rich in nutrients | **Soil moisture level:** moist, wet | **Light requirements:** sun, partial shade | **pH range:** acidic, neutral | **Host plant/forage plant:** bees, butterflies, nectar value 5, pollen value 5

PLANTKENMERKEN

Flowers: umbels, striking, small | **Flower colour:** red | **Flowering period:** March - March | **Leaf colour:** bright green, underside blue-green | **Leaves:** deciduous, palmate, opposite, polished, serrate | **Autumn colour:** yellow, orange, red | **Fruits:** no fruit | **Bark colour:** grey | **Bark:** furrowed | **Twig colour:** red-brown | **Twigs:** bare | **Root system:** fine roots, central root