



Classification of Japanese maple cultivars
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May 2018

Key to the groups

- 1:
- A- middle lobe reduced and usually shorter than the lobes surrounding. **Witches Broom Group**
 - B- leaf sessile and lobes reduced at the base to the central nerve. ... **Sessilifolium Group**
 - C- lobes convex and usually seven or more lobes. **Convexum Group**
 - D- leaf margin wavy or curly, no more than 5 lobes. **Crispum Group**
 - E- branches with a pine like rough structure. **Pinebark Group**
 - F- leaf divided to the base. Go to 2
 - G- leaf divided to half the leaf blade or less. Go to 4
 - H- leaf divided to two third. Go to 5
- 2:
- A- lobes strongly double toothed. **Dissectum Group**
 - B- lobes only lightly toothed or almost entire. **Linearilobum Group**
 - C- lobes wider and clearly toothed. Go to 3
- 3:
- A- foliage colour in summer green. **Matsumurae Group**
 - B- foliage colour in summer red or reddish green. **Atropurpureum Group**
 - C- foliage colour in summer variegated. Go to 7
- 4:
- A- foliage colour in summer green. **Amoenum Group**
 - B- foliage colour in summer red or reddish green. **Atropurpureum Group**
 - C- foliage colour in summer variegated. **Variegatum Group**
- 5:
- A- foliage colour in summer red or reddish green. **Atropurpureum Group**
 - B- foliage colour in spring and early summer orange to yellowgreen. .. **Aureum Group**
 - C- foliage colour in spring and early summer pink or pinkish-red. .. **Corallinum Group**
 - D- foliage colour in summer green. Go to 6
 - E- foliage colour in summer variegated. Go to 7
- 6:
- A- winter branches red, orange or yellow. **Red Wood Group**
 - B- branches green or brown. **Palmatum Group**
- 7:
- A- leaf margin in a contrasting colour. **Marginatum Group**
 - B- veins in a contrasting colour. **Reticulatum Group**
 - C- variegated leaves but not just the margins. **Variegatum Group**

This key includes all maple cultivars from the *Acer palmatum* complex, including *Acer matsumurae* and *Acer amoenum*. It also includes hybrids of *Acer palmatum* with *Acer shirasawanum* and *Acer circinatum*, but it does not include these two species themselves as well as all other species from the section *Palmata* within the genus *Acer*.