

Crape Myrtles are easy to grow trees and shrubs that possess many outstanding features. Intricate and strong, Crape Myrtles have gray, tan or cinnamon-hued branches that bear glorious clouds of colorful, long-lasting blooms in late summer. In the fall, they dependably produce radiant foliage in reds, oranges, and yellows. Winter reveals their exfoliating bark, which makes their naturally sculpted trunks look like living works of art. Crape Myrtles boast year-round appeal, but in the heat of the summer, they show their true colors, from red to pink to lavender, purple and white. Summer and early fall is an excellent time to purchase them because you can see exactly what color you're getting.

| Common Name | Flower Color | Fall Foliage | Height | Description |
|---------------|----------------------|--------------------------|-----------|---|
| Arapaho | Near true red | Brilliant orange-rust | 20 ft. + | Medium tree with high disease resistance |
| Dynamite | Brilliant true red | Vibrant orange-red | 20 ft. + | Medium tree with high mildew resistance. |
| Nana Lavender | Lavender | Red | 15-20 ft. | Exfoliating bark and disease resistant. |
| Nana Pink | Rosy pink | Red | 15 ft. + | Exfoliating bark and disease resistant. |
| Natchez | White | Reddish orange | 30 ft. + | Large specimen tree with exfoliating bark. |
| Purple Magic | Dark purple | Yellow | 6-10 ft. | Mid-size. Disease resistant and exfoliating bark. |
| Sioux | Vibrant rich pink | Light maroon | 15-20 ft. | Exfoliating bark and disease resistant. |
| Tonto | Deep reddish fuchsia | Bright maroon | 5-10 ft. | Exfoliating bark and disease resistant. |
| Tuscarora | Dark coral pink | Brilliant reddish-orange | 20 ft. + | Exfoliating bark and disease resistant. |
| Zuni | Medium lavender | Red to red-orange | 5-10 ft. | Semi-dwarf specimen tree with exfoliating bark |

Planting and Care Instructions: Crape Myrtles like the heat, so they naturally like full, hot sun. When planting your Crape Myrtle, choose a spot that gets full afternoon sun exposure. Dig a hole that is twice the width of the rootball and mix in a good transplant fertilizer. If you have heavy clay soil, make sure to mix in a good soil conditioner or compost to break up the clay. Once your Crape Myrtle is planted, make sure it gets adequate water for the first year. Once well-established, Crape Myrtles are drought tolerant. Crape Myrtle grows rapidly, from 2 to 4 feet a year, depending on the variety. They are late to come out or dormancy. Many do not "wake up" until June in the Northwest, so if you don't see signs of life, don't panic. They are one of the the last plants to come out of dormancy.

Pruning: Crape Myrtles bloom on new wood, so it is best to prune them in February or March when they are dormant. Prune as hard as you want to maintain size. You can also lightly prune your Crape Myrtle in October to remove spent flowers. At 3 to 5 years old, your Crape Myrtle bark will start to exfoliate. Do not worry! This is a natural process for the Crape Myrtle. Enjoy all of the wonderful features of the Crape Myrtle that make it a favorite among many gardeners. Following these simple tips will ensure your success!