



# LAGERSTROEMIA INDICA

## Crape Myrtle

 Low to moderate water

 Full sun to part shade

 Native to China

### Why we love it...

Grown as a small tree or shrub, the crape myrtle has been a prized garden subject in Southern landscapes for years. New growth is green, tinged with bronze. Thin, crepe-like flowers explode with the onset of summer heat in shades of red, pink, purple, or white. Removal of spent flower clusters will maintain a neat appearance and encourage a second or third round of blossoming.

As cooler weather arrives, foliage turns a brilliant red, orange or purple before dropping off to showcase Crape Myrtle's beautiful, smooth, grey bark. It peels off, revealing a pink or cinnamon color underneath, making it appear marbled.



**Lydia says:** Crape Myrtles flower on new wood, so they should be lightly pruned in winter or early spring.

### Deciduous Shrub or Tree: *Lagerstroemia indica*

**Size (H x W):** 3-20 feet x 3-20 feet

**Blooms:** Assorted; white, pink, purple, and red in summer

**Exposure:** Full sun to part shade

**Hardiness Zone:** 0° F, USDA Zone 7

**Water:** Low to moderate

**Pruning:** January

**Growth Rate:** Slow to moderate



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