

Lagerstroemia indica

Kingdom: Plantae

Clade: Angiosperms

Order: Myrtales

Family: Lythraceae

Genus: *Lagerstroemia*

Species: *L. indica*



Lagerstroemia indica, also known as the Crape Myrtle, is a deciduous tree or shrub popular for its vibrant flowers.

Height:

It usually reaches a height of 6 to 9 meters, though smaller varieties may grow only 2 to 3 meters tall.

Uses:

- Crape Myrtle is appreciated for its colorful and abundant blooms, which come in shades like pink, red, white, and purple. Its extended flowering period through summer and early fall makes it a popular addition to gardens and landscapes.
- Due to its compact size and drought tolerance, it is often planted in urban areas, along streets, or in small gardens. Its bark, which peels to reveal a smooth, multi-toned surface, adds year-round visual interest.
- The tree's roots help in preventing soil erosion, making it useful for stabilizing land in landscape design.
- Although not widely known for its wood, some regions have used it for small-scale carpentry or crafting, taking advantage of its availability in local areas.

Religious Importance:

- Cultural Symbolism: While *Lagerstroemia indica* is not commonly tied to specific religious practices, in some traditions, it is used in feng shui to bring positive energy to homes and gardens. Its long-lasting flowers symbolize love, protection, and renewal.
- Symbol of Longevity: In certain cultures, the Crape Myrtle is seen as a representation of renewal, longevity, and beauty, and is sometimes planted in sacred spaces or memorial gardens.