



Basic Perennial Gardening:

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Selecting Perennials

- match them to your planting site
- cold hardiness (zone 5 or smaller)
- size at maturity
- flowering time and color
- interesting foliage

Site preparation

- improve soil before planting
- if time permits do prep in fall to start a spring garden

Planting

- give plants good care until they can be put into the ground (water, cool location, light)
- plant on an overcast day if possible (less stress)
- plant at the right depth
- water plants to settle them in

Maintenance

- water- 1 inch per week
- mulch- 2 to 3 inch layer
- fertilizer-consider time release
- dead heading
- dividing

Selected perennials

Scientific name/Common name	Height-inches	Bloom period	Bloom Colors	Culture
<i>Achillea filipendulina</i> /Fernleaf Yarrow	36-48	June-July	Yellow	Full sun; tolerates dry soils
<i>Achillea millefolium</i> /Common Yarrow	12-36	June-July	Pink, Red	Full sun; well drained soil
<i>Aconitum napellus</i> /Common Monkshood	36-48	July-Aug	Blue, Purple	Partial shade; moist, fertile soil
<i>Alchemilla mollis</i> /Lady's Mantle	8-10	June-July	Yellow, Green	Full sun to partial shade; moist, well drained soil
<i>Amsonia tabernaemontana</i> / Willow Blue Star	24-36	May-June	Blue	Full sun; moist, well drained soil
<i>Anchusa azurea</i> /Italian Bugloss	36-60	June-July	Purple	Full sun to partial shade; well drained soils
<i>Aquilegia hybrids</i> /Columbine	12-36	May-June	Several	Full sun to partial shade; moist, well drained soil
<i>Arabis caucasica</i> /Rock Cress	6-10	April-May	White	Full sun to partial shade; well drained soil
<i>Armeria maritima</i> /Sea Thrift	3-4	May-June	White, Pink	Full sun; must have good drainage; salt tolerant; tolerates dry, infertile soils
<i>Aruncus dioicus</i> /Goatsbeard	48-72	June-July	White	Partial shade; moist soil
<i>Asclepias tuberosa</i> /Butterfly Weed	18-36	July-Aug	Orange, Yellow	Full sun; well-drained soils; drought tolerant
<i>Aster novae-angliae</i> /New England Aster	48-72	Aug-frost	Pink, Purple, Blue	Full sun, moist soil
<i>Astilbe x arendsii</i> /Astilbe	24-36	June-July	White, Pink, Red	Partial shade; consistently moist soils
<i>Aubrieta deltoidea</i> /False Rock Cress	6	April-May	Pink, Purple	Full sun; well drained soil; tolerates alkaline soil
<i>Aurinia saxatilis</i> /Basket of Gold	9-12	April-May	Yellow	Full sun; well drained soil; avoid excess fertilizer

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<i>Baptisia australis</i> /False Indigo	36-48	May-June	Blue, purple	Full sun or partial shade; drought tolerant
<i>Belamcanda chinensis</i> /Blackberry Lily	24-36	July-Aug	Orange	Full sun; moist, well-drained soil
<i>Bergenia cordifolia</i> /Bergenia	12-18	April-May	Pink	Full sun to partial shade; tolerates drought
<i>Brunnera macrophylla</i> /Siberian Bugloss	12-18	April-May	Blue	Partial shade; moist soil
<i>Campanula carpatica</i> /Carpathian Harebells	6-8	June-August	White, Blue, Purple	Full sun to partial shade; well drained soils
<i>Campanula glomerata</i> /Clustered Bellflower	18-24	June-July	Purple	Full sun to partial shade; tolerates wet sites
<i>Centaurea macrocephala</i> /Globe Knapweed	36-48	July	Yellow	Full sun; well drained soil
<i>Centaurea montana</i> /Mountain Bluet	12-24	May-July	Blue	Full sun or partial shade; well drained soil
<i>Cerastium tomentosum</i> /Snow in Summer	6-10	May-June	White	Full sun; well drained, low fertility soils
<i>Chelone lyonii</i> /Pink Turtlehead	24-36	Aug-Sept	Pink	Full sun to partial shade; moist to wet soil
<i>Chrysanthemum coccineum</i> /Painted Daisy	18-30	June-July	White, Pink, Red	Full sun; well drained soil; can't tolerate wet soils
<i>Chrysanthemum x morifolium</i> /mum	12-36	Aug-frost	Several	Full sun; moist, well-drained soil
<i>Coreopsis lanceolata</i> /Lance-leaved Coreopsis	12-24	June-July	Yellow	Full sun; drought tolerant
<i>Coreopsis verticillata</i> /Threadleaf Coreopsis	12-24	June-Aug	Yellow	Full sun; drought tolerant
<i>Corydalis lutea</i> /Yellow Corydalis	6-12	all season	Yellow	Full sun to partial shade; moist, well drained soil; tolerates alkaline soil
<i>Dianthus deltooides</i> /Maiden Pinks	6-12	May-June	White, Pink, Red	Full sun to partial shade; tolerates alkaline soil

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<i>Dianthus gratianopolitanus</i> /Cheddar Pinks	9-12	June	White, Pink, Red	Full sun; well drained soil; tolerates alkaline soil
<i>Dicentra spectabilis</i> /Bleeding Heart	18-30	May-June	Pink, White	Partial shade; moist, fertile soils
<i>Dictamnus albus</i> /Gas Plant	24-36	June-July	White, Pink	Full sun; well drained soil; tolerates drought
<i>Doronicum cordatum</i> /Leopard's Bane	12-24	May-June	Yellow	Partial shade; moist, well-drained soil
<i>Echinacea purpurea</i> /Purple Coneflower	24-48	July-Sept	Purple, White	Full sun; well drained soil; drought tolerant
<i>Echinops ritro</i> /Globe Thistle	36-48	July-Sept	Blue	Full sun; tolerates very dry, poor soil
<i>Eupatorium maculatum</i> /Joe-Pye Weed	48-72	July-Sept	Pink	Full sun to partial shade; moist soils
<i>Gaillardia x grandiflora</i> /Blanket Flower	24-36	June-frost	Red, Yellow	Full sun; needs good drainage; drought tolerant
<i>Geranium sanguineum</i> /Bloodred Cranesbill	6-12	May-Aug	Red, Purple	Full sun to partial shade
<i>Helenium autumnale</i> /Sneezeweed	30-60	July-frost	Red, Orange, Yellow	Full sun; moist, well drained soil
<i>Heemerocallis</i> hybrids/Daylily	12-48	June-Sept	several	Full sun to partial shade; moist, well-drained soil
<i>Heuchera sanguinea</i> /Coral Bells	6-24	June-July	White, Pink , Red	Full sun to partial shade; moist, well-drained soil
<i>X Heucherella tiarelloides</i> /Foamy Bells	12-24	May-June	Pink	Partial shade; moist soils
<i>Hosta</i> species and hybrids/Hosta	12-30	Aug-Sept	White, Lavender	Partial to full shade; moist soils
<i>Iris</i> hybrids/Bearded Iris	8-48	May-June	several	Full sun; must have good drainage
<i>Iris pallida</i> /Sweet Iris	24-36	May-June	Lavender	Full sun; well drained soil
<i>Iris sibirica</i> /Siberian Iris	12-36	May-June	White, Blue, Purple	Full sun to partial shade; moist soil

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<i>Knautia macedonica</i> /Knautia	24	July-Sept	Red	Full sun; well drained soil
<i>Leucanthemum x superbum</i> /Shasta Daisy	12-36	June-Aug	White	Full sun to partial shade; moist, well drained soil
<i>Liatris spicata</i> /Blazing Star	24-36	July-Aug	Purple	Full sun to partial shade; well-drained soils
<i>Lobelia cardinalis</i> /Cardinal Flower	24-48	Aug-Sept	Red	Partial shade; consistently moist soils
<i>Lychnis chalcedonica</i> /Maltese Cross	24-36	June-July	Red, Orange	Full sun to partial shade; well drained, fertile soil
<i>Mertensia virginica</i> /Virginia Bluebells	12-24	April-May	Blue	Partial shade to shade; rich, moist soil
<i>Monarda didyma</i> /Bee balm	24-36	July-Aug	White, Pink, Red	Full sun to partial shade; moist soils
<i>Oenothera fruticosa</i> /Sundrops	9-12	June-August	Yellow	Full sun; requires good drainage
<i>Oenothera macrocarpa</i> / Missouri Evening Primrose	2-3	June-Aug	Yellow	Full sun; requires good drainage; tolerates drought and poor soils
<i>Paeonia</i> hybrids/Peony	24-36	May-June	White, Pink, Red	Full sun to partial shade; well drained, fertile soil
<i>Papaver orientale</i> /Oriental Poppy	24-36	June	Pink, Red, Orange	Full sun to partial shade; well drained soil
<i>Penstemon barbatus</i> /Beardtongue	18-36	June-July	Pink	Full sun; well drained soil
<i>Perovskia atriplicifolia</i> /Russian Sage	36-48	July-Sept	Blue, Lavender	Full sun; well drained soil
<i>Phlox paniculata</i> /Garden Phlox	24-48	July-Sept	Several	Full sun to partial shade; moist, fertile soil
<i>Phlox subulata</i> /Moss Phlox	3-6	April-May	White, Pink, Purple	Full sun; well drained soil
<i>Physostegia virginiana</i> /Obedient Plant	36-48	July-Aug	White, Purple	Full sun to partial shade; moist soils
<i>Platycodon grandiflorus</i> /Balloon Flower	24-36	July-Aug	White, Pink, Blue	Full sun to partial shade; cannot tolerate wet sites

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<i>Pulmonaria saccharata</i> /Bethlehem Sage	8-12	May	Pink, Blue	Partial to full shade; cool, moist soils
<i>Rudbeckia fulgida</i> /Black-eyed Susan	24-36	July-Sept	Yellow	Full sun to partial shade; moist, well-drained soils
<i>Scabiosa caucasica</i> /Pincushion Flower	18-24	June-Sept	White, Blue	Full sun to partial shade; well drained soil
<i>Sedum spectabile</i> /Showy Sedum	18-24	Aug-frost	White, Pink, Red	Full sun to partial shade; drought tolerant
<i>Solidago</i> hybrids/Goldenrod	varies	Aug-Oct	Yellow	Full sun; well drained soil; drought tolerant
<i>Solidago canadensis</i> /Canada Goldenrod	24-60	Aug-Oct	Yellow	Full sun; well drained soil; drought tolerant
<i>Solidago rigida</i> /Stiff Goldenrod	36-60	Aug-Oct	Yellow	Full sun; well drained soil; drought tolerant
<i>Stachys byzantina</i> /Lamb's Ears	12-18	July-Aug	Pink	Full sun; well drained soil
<i>Tradescantia x andersoniana</i> / Common spiderwort	12-24	May-June	several	Full sun to partial shade; well drained soil; tolerates wet sites
<i>Tradescantia virginiana</i> / Virginia Spiderwort	24-36	May-June	Blue, Purple	Full sun to partial shade; well drained soil; tolerates wet sites
<i>Tricyrtis formosana</i> /Formosa Toad Lily	24	Sept-Oct	Pink, white	Partial shade; rich, moist soils
<i>Tricyrtis hirta</i> /Hairy Toad Lily	24-36	Sept-Oct	Lavender, white	Partial shade; rich, moist soils
<i>Veronica spicata</i> /Spike Speedwell	10-36	June-July	Blue	Full sun to partial shade; well drained soil