

Perennial means enduring...

Annuals live and die in one season and must be replanted each year. Plants that die down, endure the winter, but grow back bigger than ever when the spring comes, are perennials. Perennials can be planted at any time throughout the growing season, until 2-3 weeks before the ground freezes. If you buy established perennials and plant them early, it's a pretty safe bet you'll get blooms in your garden before winter. Buying established plants is the fastest way to produce beautiful results in your garden. Plant perennials once and enjoy their beauty year after year. Perennials come in all shapes and sizes. Become acquainted with fail-safe heirloom perennials, or the hottest new gorgeous plant. Learning about design basics can provide you with a lifetime of gardening joy.

Learning to use the diverse colors and textures of perennials is an endless joy. After all, isn't it the pure pleasure of watching your garden bloom and thrive throughout the spring, summer and fall that sparks your interest in the first place? Picking perennials that will thrive in your garden depends on a few things: the climate in your region; the amount of sun that reaches the planting area; the different bloom times of the perennials you choose; the flower colors you like best; the mature height and width of each plant; and the condition of the perennial at your reputable garden center.

Many perennials are grown for their foliage shape and texture as well as their beautiful blooms. They offer dramatic visual contrasts or harmonies in addition to flower colors. The ways to enhance your landscape becomes endless. As your perennial knowledge and experience increases, your landscape will increase in value as well as long-term beauty. You will soon discover the true beauty and many varieties of perennials that are available

gardening is ...

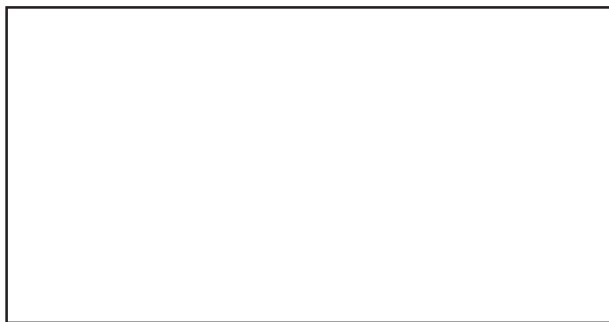
For most of us, our daily lives have become a complex balancing act between family, work, recreation and maintaining our homes. Although we would probably like to be involved in activities that will improve our own well being and that of the world around us, finding a way to fit such projects into our schedules seems a daunting task. But is it? Right in our back yards - front yards - and decks - we can do something that is fun, healthy, good for the environment and adds beauty to our surroundings as well. Design your garden based on what you like to do to make sure you spend most of your time doing just that.

Gardening is like taking a vacation in our very own yard. It is a chance to get away and *relax* in the comfort of nature. Gardening allows you to dig in, *get your hands dirty* and reconnect with nature.



www.growingforyou.com

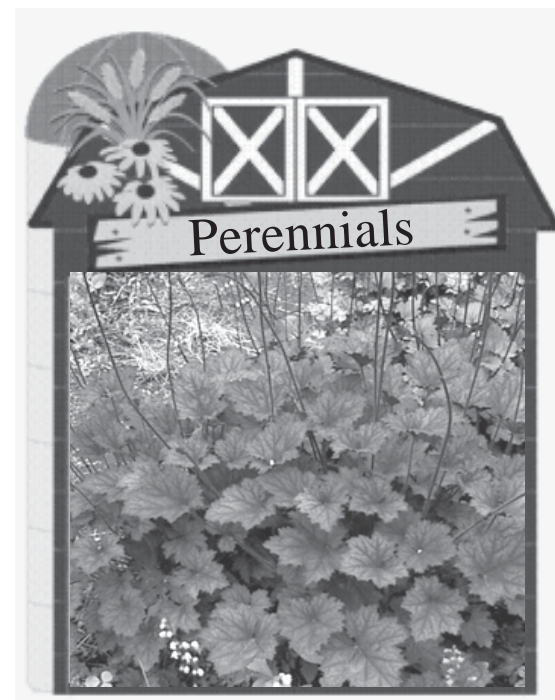
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HEUCHERA ...



...is grown for its luscious foliage as well as coral bell flowers. Heucheras are noted for their tolerance of dry shade conditions, but will thrive in moist well-drained soil as well. Cream to pink flowers on tall stems, rise above the tidy foliage in June and July. Foliage colors range from green to purple with every imaginable shading of silver and burgundy on clean, care-free leaves.

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HEUCHERA...

‘Autumn Bride’

Coral Bells

A fall-blooming Heuchera introduced by Bluemont Nurseries has large, velvety, light green leaves that are semi-evergreen. The wands of white flower clusters are thick in September–October at 24". Add this late-flowering native for fall color to a semi-shady garden setting. Try it with a mass of pink Begonia grandis and the startling deep blue hooded spikes of Aconitum.

Plant 18 in apart, Zone 3–8, part sun to part shade

‘Black Beauty’

Coral Bells

This new Heuchera has very dark chocolate ruffled leaves at 10", with rich burgundy undersides so bright they seem to glow as if backlit by the sun. The tiny creamy coral bells are numerous on strong burgundy stems at 24" in July–August, although the glossy gorgeous leaves take top billing. ‘Black Beauty’ handles some sun, but this hardy Heuchera prefers light shade and well-drained soil high in organic matter to do best in local heat and humidity. Patented (13288).

Plant 18 in apart, Zone 4–9, part sun to part shade

Bressingham Hybrids

Coral Bells

Redish-pink, bell-shaped flowers appear in May and June on strong stems about 18" above the attractive foliage. Keeping spent flowers removed will prolong bloom time. Coral Bells prefer rich, well-drained soil.

Plant 18 in apart, Zone 4–8, part sun to part shade

‘Montrose Ruby’

Coral Bells

Dainty white bell-shaped flowers on 2' stems contrast beautifully with the shiny burgundy maple-shaped leaves with silver marbling. Blooms appear in July above mounds and are prolific in well-drained soil.

Plant 18 in apart, Zone 6–8, part sun to part shade

‘Obsidian’

Coral Bells

Broad black leaves are shiny, broad, round and smooth at about 10" in height. The creamy Coral Bells appear on 24" purple stems in June–July. For big color punch in the part shade garden try this unique new black-leaved Heuchera with a mass of Lysimachia nummularia ‘Aurea’ (Golden Creeping Jenny) or the eye-popping electric yellow of Heucherella ‘Sunspot’.

Plant 18 in apart, Zone 4–9, part sun to part shade

‘Palace Purple’

Coral Bells

The 1991 Perennial Plant of the Year, ‘Palace Purple’ has it all—beautiful showy white flowers on wiry purple stems at 18–24", and purple-bronze broad leaves with a pink underside. Flowers appear in June. The foliage color holds best in partial shade. Plant them in the border in clumps, as edging, or in nooks in the rock garden. While complementary perennial combinations are endless for ‘Palace Purple’, try it with the silvery blue leaves of Hosta ‘Halycon’, and other Siberian Iris for the cooling semi-shady garden.

Plant 18 in apart, Zone 6–8, part sun to part shade

‘Pewter Moon’

Coral Bells

You’d never guess we like the Heuchera! In the past ‘Pewter Moon’ disappeared as fast as they were ready. The silver-gray leaves are marbled with pewter gray veins and are deep maroon on the underside. Icy pink flower bells appear in June–July on sturdy maroon stems at 15".

Plant 18 in apart, Zone 6–8, part sun to part shade

‘Plum Pudding’

Coral Bells

The shiniest dark plum-purple foliage of this popular Heuchera has faint silver marbling and is deeply ruffled. ‘Plum Pudding’ has pale pink flower clusters appearing in June and July at 18". Despite the plethora of dark-leaved Heucheras available today, this is a keeper. Try it with a yellow-leaved Hosta such as ‘August Moon’ or ‘Kabitan’, or as a contrast for silver or brightly variegated perennials such as Pulmonaria ‘Spilled Milk’, Variegated Carex or Liriope, Lamiums, or Japanese Painted Ferns.

Plant 18 in apart, Zone 5–9, part sun to part shade

‘Snow Angel’

Coral Bells

Throughout the droughty summer ‘Snow Angel’ looks fat and happy. The bright variegated light green and cream mottled leaves are smallish, making tidy clumps at 12" in the part-shade garden. Pink blooms in June above the arresting foliage are an added bonus. A great alternative to purple or green-leaved Heucheras, the foliage stays clean and bright throughout the summer. ‘Snow Angel’ literally stopped folks in their tracks. No kidding.

Plant 18 in apart, Zone 3–8, part sun to part shade

‘Silver Scrolls’

Coral Bells

Metallic silvery leaves have deep wine-red scalloped borders, veins, and underside. The overall effect is a rich burgundy glow. Trim and tidy, ‘Silver Scrolls’ at 12–18" is a vigorous grower with creamy June flowers from pink buds. Evergreen by nature, it will respond to seasonal light levels with rich purple foliage color in winter and more silvery overlays in spring.

Plant 18 in apart, Zone 4–9, part sun to part shade

‘Stormy Seas’

Coral Bells

If the blast of purple, appliquéd with silver, lavender, pewter and charcoal gray weren’t enough, the highly ruffled leaves have lovely form and extreme vigor. This is an award-winning Heuchera considered one of the best for landscape use and sun resistance. Pinkish coral bell flowers appear on stiff stems at 36" in May and June with foliage at about 18". Try it coupled with a mass of Japanese Painted Ferns, rich green Hosta ‘Royal Standard’, and the shocking chartreuse of Heucherella ‘Sunspot’ for pleasing color and texture contrast.

Plant 18 in apart, Zone 4–9, part sun to part shade