

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.



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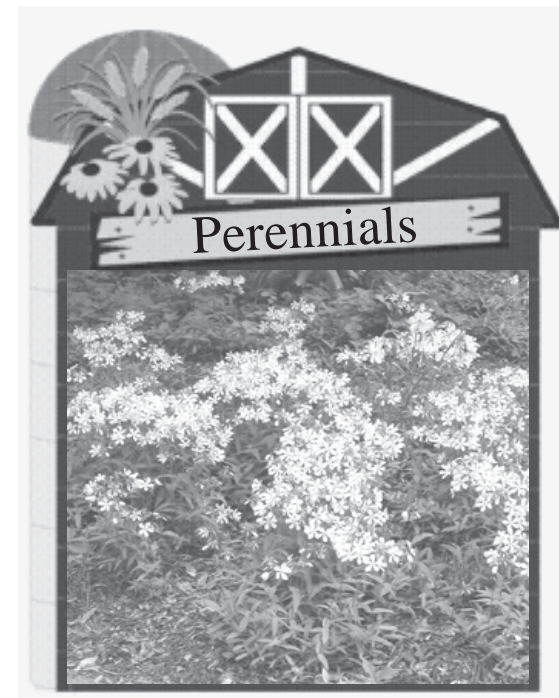
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PHLOX...



...is suited to shady woodlands as well as sunny garden borders. Phlox divaricata and stolonifera spread through the shade garden with pastel springtime flowers. The bright spring blooms of Phlox subulata are a familiar sight, spreading in gardens or lawns in full sun. Phlox Paniculata (Tall Summer Phlox) are old fashioned favorites in a range of bright colors, great for cutting, attractive to butterflies, and are often fragrant.

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PHLOX...

‘London Grove’ Wild Sweet William

Fragrant and compact at 8-10", the lavender-blue star-shaped flowers appear in May-June in the bright shade they prefer. Despite its English-sounding name, this Woodland Phlox is a local native. It will re-seed itself in a delightful way through the part shade border or rock garden, where the butterflies will find it. Mildew-resistant dark green leaves turn burgundy as autumn arrives.

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

‘May Breeze’ Woodland Phlox

In April and May, before the leafy canopy obscures the forest floor, spring woodland bulbs delight us. Add this near-white fragrant Woodland Phlox to your partially shaded border, edging, or rock garden. Fragrant, long-blooming, deer resistant, and attractive to butterflies and hummingbirds, expect an 8-10" height. Try this native with *Viola labradorica*, *Aquilegias*, or under a golden-leaved *Spiraea* such as ‘Magic Carpet’ where its semi-evergreen foliage will spread happily in moist, well-drained soil.

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

‘Becky Towe’ Variegated Summer Phlox

Green and butter cream mildew-resistant leaves are coupled with carmine rose blooms with a dark magenta eye at 24-30" from late July into September, especially if kept deadheaded. Discovered and named by June Towe of England for her Flatcoated Retriever “Becky”. Try these in the “dog days” of our humid, hot summers with other Summer Phlox, Hardy Geraniums, *Echinacea* p. ‘Magnus’, and the dwarf variegated *Miscanthus* ‘Dixieland’. Patented (12908).

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

‘David’ Summer Phlox

2002 Perennial Plant of the Year. Summer Phlox are the mainstay of many perennial gardens with large full heads of fragrant flowers in delicious colors needing little attention, unequaled as a cut flower, and blooming for long periods on sturdy stems. Provide rich, moist well-drained soil as Phlox are heavy feeders. Cut back faded blooms for prolonged flowering. Our varieties are chosen for their mildew resistance, but it can only help to avoid watering at night or directly on the foliage. Native ‘David’ is a superb fragrant white, grows to a height of 3' plus, is popular for its July to September bloom time, and is gorgeous with other perennials.

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

‘Eva Cullum’

Summer Phlox

A sturdy, native-grower 2–3' tall that never needs staking, the large flower heads of ‘Eva Cullum’ are a bright, clear pink with a red eye, typically fragrant and highly mildew-resistant, blooming from July into September.

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

‘Franz Schubert’

Summer Phlox

A sturdy and durable native, the cool lilac flower heads of ‘Franz Schubert’ are unique in color, with a light fragrance, above compact, mildew-resistant foliage. Flowers bloom from July into September to 3'.

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

‘Nicky’

Summer Phlox

In addition to its compact height of 24-30", ‘Nicky’ has magnificent deep rose-purple flower clusters during July-August. Mildew-resistant and sweetly fragrant, butterflies and hummingbirds will find it as appealing. ‘Nicky’s’ startling color is captivating.

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

‘Robert Poore’

Summer Phlox

Added to our selections of Summer Phlox for its spectacular lack of mildew, try this pink-flowering Mississippi native—we’re talking hot and humid now. From July to September the 4–5' multiple stems will provide you with rich medium pink bold flower heads for cutting with that unforgettable soft fragrance. Forget those fungicides.

Plant 18 inches apart Zone 5–9

full sun to part shade

‘Sandra’

Summer Phlox

Showy, cherry red flower heads are a bit shorter than the norm at 24", but native ‘Sandra’ blooms away throughout the summer from July on, and is mildew resistant, with a delicate fragrance. Butterflies love all Summer Phlox, and hummingbirds will put this scarlet red to the test.

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

‘Blue Ridge’

Creeping Phlox

Our shade gardening customers love the native Creeping Phlox for its glossy, semi-evergreen foliage with masses of bloom in May about 8" above the mat of leaves. No wonder Creeping Phlox was chosen the 1990 Perennial Plant of the Year. The lavish, light blue flowers of ‘Blue Ridge’ appear in April and May when spring bulbs are at their peak.

Plant 18 in apart, Zone 5–9, full shade

‘Home Fires’

Creeping Phlox

Their rich, deep pink color make native ‘Home Fires’ glow above the deep green of their mat of spreading foliage. Under trees and shrubs the evergreen foliage is exceptional. Blooms in April and May to 8".

Plant 18 in apart, Zone 5–9, full shade

‘Candy Stripes’

Moss Pinks

Soft, evergreen, mossy foliage underlies this 4–6" bicolor which is white with a wide bright pink stripe. This colorful native reaches full bloom in April–May, but will often rebloom in the fall.

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

‘Emerald Blue’

Moss Pinks

A popular color of the native Moss Pinks is this blue with the same evergreen mossy foliage, blooming in April at 4–6".

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

‘Millstream Daphne’

Moss Pinks

Same low mat of rich evergreen foliage smothered with intense pink flowers in April–May at 4–6" in height. We have chosen ‘Millstream Daphne’ for its more compact habit. It prefers a sunny well-drained site, is fairly drought-tolerant, spreads quickly, and certainly looks cheerful when used as edging or in the rock garden.

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

‘Scarlet Flame’

Moss Pinks

This native Phlox is scarlet red in April and May, and grows to a height of 4–6" with that soft evergreen mossy foliage.

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

‘White Delight’

Moss Pinks

Pristine white flowers are profuse on this old favorite in April and May. Dense and compact, the white flowers cover the evergreen mossy foliage to a height of 4-6".

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