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GROWING GUIDE

*Prepared by
the Nursery Professionals
of Spring Garden*

*Canada's Mail Order
Garden Centre Since 1912*



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GROWING GUIDE

The nursery professionals of Spring Garden have worked with leading horticultural authorities throughout Canada and Europe to create this special Growing Guide. We sincerely hope the

tips and suggestions it contains will assist you in getting full enjoyment from the plants, bulbs, trees, shrubs, roses and other growing material you've ordered from Spring Garden.

CAUTION: *Not all plant material is edible. Though most plants are harmless, some contain toxic substances which can cause headaches, nausea, dizziness or other discomforts. As a general rule, only known food plants and fruits should be eaten. In case of ingestion, please contact your local poison control centre. Keep out of reach of children.*

No-Risk Guarantee

We will issue credit for the original purchase price of the product or replace free of charge nursery stock that does not grow, provided our instructions for planting and maintenance have been followed. We cannot be held responsible for damage to stock due to weather, soil, care, planting conditions or incorrect zoning. Spring Garden reserves the right to determine the correct shipping time of the product according to planting zones and weather conditions. You may be requested to return products with the original product labels. All claims for fall shipped product must be filed prior to June 30 the following year. All claims for spring shipped product must be filed prior to August 31 of that year.

What To Do When Your Plants Arrive

Having a great garden starts when you open your Spring Garden® shipment. Our nursery professionals have selected only top-quality growing material, and each item is carefully inspected before it is packed in our special Pro² Packaging for shipment to you.

Spring Garden takes special pride in its superior Pro² Packaging and shipping methods, which have been widely applauded as the most advanced in the mail order nursery industry. Some items are shipped in bedding pots, and others are shipped bareroot or as bulbs, tubers or rhizomes. Our nursery professionals select whichever method is most likely to provide safe shipment and give you the best results with minimum care.

Open your carton as quickly as possible and check each item against the packing slip to make sure you've received everything you ordered. (If it is necessary to delay shipment of certain items or if multiple shipments are being made, you'll find that information on the packing slip.)

Plants don't like to be kept waiting, so they will need your immediate attention. Immediate transplanting to their new home is always the best idea. However, if inclement weather requires a delay, we recommend the following:

Potted Plants...The best spot to keep potted perennials for a short time before planting is outdoors in a sheltered, but bright, location. If cold temperatures are forecast, make sure your plants are protected from freezing. Water the plants whenever the soil begins to dry on top. Plant your perennials in the garden just as soon as possible.

Dormant Woody Plants...These leafless, soil-less plants will keep for a few days in their plastic bags in a cool and dark location (2° to 6°C is recommended) with their roots covered with damp newspaper. Give the roots and newspaper a light misting as necessary to keep them damp. Protect them from direct sunlight and wind.

Dormant Perennial Roots...Keep peony, iris, Oriental poppy, etc. roots in their original bags at about 5°C (the vegetable drawer of a spare refrigerator is ideal) for no longer than three weeks. Quick planting, however, will give the best results. Don't worry if the roots appear to be dead when they arrive. They're just dormant and will sprout into life after planting.

Strawberry Plants...These, too, can be kept in their original bags at about 5°C. For best results, plant them as quickly as possible.

Bulbs...Open bags to allow air to circulate and store bulbs in a cool, well-ventilated location (basement) if planting must be delayed. Protect them from any danger of freezing.

Help for Our Customers

Whether you're a new or experienced gardener, the key to your success is patience. Please note that some newly planted items take 30-60 days to get established before you will see vigorous growth. Spring Garden's service doesn't stop with the delivery of your order. Our Customer Service Representatives are available to answer any inquiries you may have. E-mail us at service@SpringGarden.ca. Call us at 800-917-2852 any weekday between 8:00 am and 5:00 pm ET. Or, if you prefer, you can write to us at Spring Garden, Customer Service, 9353 Graham Road, West Lorne, Ontario N0L 2P0. We will answer your questions promptly.



Preparing for Planting

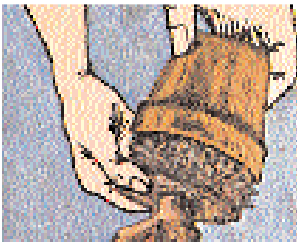
Potted Plants...When you receive your potted plants, you may find some of the leaves appear to be yellowing or perhaps even dead. But that doesn't mean the plants are dead. As long as the root system is healthy, upper foliage will soon regenerate.

Your potted plants require little attention before transplanting:

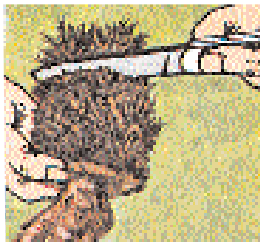
- Check to make sure the planting medium is still moist and water if the top is dry.
- Groom the plant by pinching off any less-than-healthy leaves (for example, leaves that are yellowed or withered).
- Transplant potted plants to their new home as soon as possible after your shipment arrives.
- Remove plants from their shipping pots by lightly squeezing or tapping the sides of the container to loosen the planting medium in which the plant has been growing. Then, invert the pot, gently shake the plant loose and proceed with planting.

Plants which seem to be tightly bound to their pots may be “root bound.” However, they are easy to remove and prepare for planting:

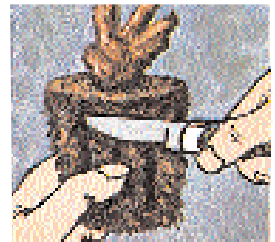
- First, squeeze the container to loosen the compacted root ball inside.
- Invert the pot and shake the plant out of the container.
- If you find a mass of roots tightly woven into the planting medium, cut or tear off the bottom third of the root ball.



Squeeze, invert & shake



Cut off bottom third of root ball



Score sides of root ball

- Then, using a knife or trowel, score a vertical mark on all four sides of the root ball (see illustration on page 4). Even though you will be cutting some of the roots by scoring, loose ends will have a tendency to grow outward into the surrounding soil, while unscored roots would continue to grow in the root ball itself after planting and may cause decreased vigour.

Dormant & Bareroot Plants... Many items do best when shipped in a dormant or bareroot condition. Often plants shipped this way may appear to be dead. However, dormant or bareroot plants are living plant material even though they may be completely void of green buds or leaves. The plants are shipped to you without any soil around the roots. They've been conditioned for shipping and will be ready to start their growth after planting. It may take as long as six to eight weeks before they begin sprouting to the point where growth is obvious.

Please be patient. All plants Spring Garden® selects for you are ready to begin root development as soon as they are planted. But they need time to develop their roots before they start their upward growth.

Most spring-planted perennials require from four to six weeks before sprouts begin to appear. Fall-planted items most likely will show no growth until spring.

Bulbs... You may notice touches of what appear to be mold on bulbs and other dormant items. Don't be concerned—it's what horticulturists call "storage mold" and it won't affect growth. Simply wipe it off.

(For illustrations of various types of bareroot perennials and bulbs, see pp. 12-13.)

Trees & Shrubs... Some trees and shrubs are shipped in bareroot form. If possible, plant trees and shrubs as soon as possible upon receipt of your shipment. If you must wait a few days: open the box, cover the roots with newspaper, moisten the roots and newspaper as necessary to keep them damp, rewrap them in their shipping plastic and store in a cool, dark place.



Heeling in Plants

If planting must be delayed for more than 10 days, heel in the plant (see illustration above). Dig a sloping trench long and wide enough to hold the roots. Lay the plant in the trench with the roots against the steep side. Cover the roots with soil and soak with water.

Before planting your bareroot trees and shrubs, soak the plants' roots in a tub of water for at least an hour or two (but no more than 12 hours) just before planting. Many gardeners find a plastic garbage can ideal for this presoaking. (Tip: Never leave bareroot plants or bulbs exposed to sun and wind. They must be kept moist and cool at all times prior to planting.)



Planting Your Plants, Bulbs, Trees, Shrubs & Roses

The following tips for planting assume you're planting in a garden or bed which has previously been prepared. (You'll find tips for preparing a new bed on pages 12 and 13 of this Growing Guide.)

Potted Plants...To transplant a potted plant to your garden, first dig a hole slightly larger than the pot in which the plant arrived. Then remove the plant from its pot (as described on page 4) and place the plant in the centre of the hole with the foliage at the same distance above the soil line as it was in the pot. Fill the planting hole, working soil around the root ball with your fingers; press firmly to remove any air pockets and water thoroughly.

Ground Covers...Ground cover plants prefer deeply worked, properly fertilized soil which is free from weeds.

Plant each ground cover plant as outlined above for potted plants. To create the most natural effect, stagger your planting so the individual plants aren't lined up like ranks of soldiers. On a slope, follow the contours with staggered spacing, leaving a depression around each plant to catch water.

Spread a 2-4 cm layer of mulch over the area surrounding the plants, being careful not to bury them. This will help retain moisture in the soil and retard weed growth. Maintain the mulch covering until your ground cover plants have spread to cover the entire planting site.

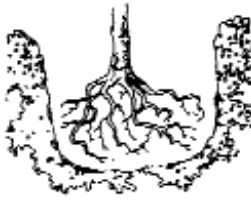
Vines...Most vines will grow best when allowed to climb up a vertical support. When planting a climbing vine near a building, fence, wall or tree, set the plant at least 40 cm from the structure which will support it. Then gradually train it to grow over to the structure.

Garden arbours, trellises and similar supporting structures intended especially for vines usually are in the open. Prepare the soil as recommended, planting the vine close to the support. Do the same for mesh-type fencing.

Don't let your vines form into a tangle. They should be pruned frequently through the summer. Spread and tie the shoots to keep them to a single "layer" over the support.

Of the flowering vines, **clematis** is the first choice of the majority of Canadian gardeners. A key essential to getting your clematis plants established is to make sure the root system will be kept cool. A sunny location where roots can grow under a cool covering, such as other perennials or mulch, is ideal. Deep planting—about 2 cm deeper than it was grown in the nursery—encourages extra-strong root development and frequent, thorough watering will encourage vigorous growth.

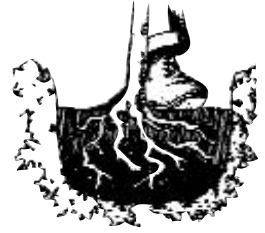
Bareroot Trees, Shrubs and Hedges... There are six basic steps for planting trees, shrubs and hedges:



1. Dig a hole large enough to give the roots plenty of room, with about 10 cm of space beyond the root tips and the sides of the hole. Build a mound of soil in the bottom of the hole and spread roots in a natural position atop the mound.



2. Position the plant so the previous soil line will be even with ground level. (The stem/trunk will be darker in colour below the original planting line and lighter in colour above it.)



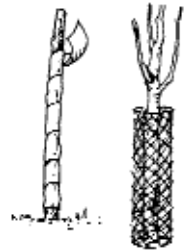
3. Once the plant is positioned at the proper planting depth, begin filling the hole with soil. Work the soil around the roots with your hands. When the hole is half filled, tamp the soil to remove any air pockets.



4. Fill the planting hole with water and let it soak in. Straighten the plant in the hole and finish filling with soil.



5. Form a "saucer" of soil around the edges of the planting hole and fill it with water. (To promote growth, dig four small holes 10-15 cm deep around the planting hole and apply some Spring Garden® Advanced Formula Plant Food.



6. The lower trunk of newly planted trees should be wrapped with heavy paper or special tree wrap. This will protect tender bark from sunscald and rodents. A cylinder of screen wire is useful to protect the trunk from destructive animals.

Bareroot Perennials... There are five basic types of root systems: fibrous roots, long taproots, rhizomes, roots with "eyes" and fleshy tuberous roots.



- **Fibrous Roots** (example: tall phlox)... Dig a hole twice as wide and twice as deep as the bareroots. Carefully spread the roots out in the hole. Holding the roots with one hand, suspend them in the planting hole at the proper depth. Fill in and around the roots with soil until the hole is completely filled. Tamp the soil with your hand to remove air pockets. Create a "saucer" around the planting hole with soil, mark the planting, and fill the saucer with water. Let it soak in and fill the saucer again until the roots are completely watered.



- **Long Taproots** (examples: hollyhocks, hardy hibiscus)... Follow the procedure outlined above for fibrous roots.



• **Rhizomes** (*example: bearded irises*)...Dig a shallow hole 10 cm deep and twice as wide as the rhizome. Create a small mound in the middle of this shallow planting hole. Place the rhizome on top of this mound and spread the roots on both sides of the mound. Fill the hole with soil but only partially cover the rhizome. Water thoroughly.



• **Roots with "Eyes"** (*example: peonies*)...Dig a hole twice as wide and twice as deep as the root. Holding the root, with "eyes" pointing up, about 2 cm below the soil surface, fill in and around the root with soil until the planting hole is filled. Firm the soil with both hands and water thoroughly. (Note: It's important not to plant peonies with their eyes more than 2-3 cm below the soil surface for proper blooming.)



• **Fleshy Roots** (*examples: daylilies, hostas*)...Dig a hole twice as wide and twice as deep as the bareroots. Create a mound in the planting hole to hold the roots and the crown (where roots meet the stem) at ground level. Spread the roots over the mound. Fill the planting hole with soil and firm with both hands. Water thoroughly.

Bulbs... There are two basic methods for planting bulbs. One is to dig individual holes for each bulb. This can be done with a garden trowel or one of the special hole-cutting tools called bulb planters. Loosen the soil to a depth of 15-20 cm and add some Spring Garden® Advanced Formula Plant Food.

Most bulbs will have a visible growing point which should face upwards. As a general rule, bulbs should be planted two to three times deeper than the height of the bulb itself. Place your bulb in position in the hole and cover it with loose soil.

If you are planting a quantity of bulbs in a single area, you may want to dig an entire bed to the correct planting depth. Then you can position each bulb just where you want it before covering it with soil.

Once the bulbs are in position and covered, give them a good initial watering. Bulbs need plenty of water and good drainage. They require only a minimum amount of care during the blooming period. Like all garden plants, they appreciate a weed-free growing area and watering when nature doesn't supply enough rain to keep the soil moist. Do not, however, let water stand around your bulbs.

Blueberries... Most blueberries require two plants to produce fruit (Top Hat is self-fruitful.) Blueberries require sharply acidic soil, rich in humus. They thrive in clean cultivation or under acid-yielding mulch such as old oak sawdust or oak-leaf compost. Where soil is not sharply acidic, increase acidity with iron sulfate and with acidic fertilizer such as cottonseed meal or azalea-camellia fertilizer. (For additional details, see "Tips for Preparing New Perennial Beds and Gardens" on pages 12 and 13.)

Blueberries thrive in full sun. Plant them 1 1/2-2 m apart. After blueberry canes have borne fruit for two or three years, remove the old canes. Cut back new basal shoots so that they branch below waist height, and take out twiggy, interior growth. (See the Winterizing section on page 11 for continued care of container plantings.)

Strawberries...Don't be surprised when you open your package of strawberries and discover what appears to be a mass of "dead" roots. They aren't dead—they're just sleeping. Unwrap your plants and carefully separate them. As you prepare to plant, set only the roots in water.

Proper planting depth is important (see illustration on page 13). Create a shallow hole 30 cm wide and spread the strawberry roots almost flat, adjusting the height of the crown, carefully keeping it just above ground level. Cover with soil so the bed is level and then water thoroughly.

There are two basic categories of strawberries—Junebearers and everbearers. Junebearers produce blossoms their first summer. These should be pinched off before they can set fruit, so plants will use their full energy to develop large amounts of fruit the following season. Junebearers are usually planted in rows with runners picked off for the first two months each year. Then allow the plants to produce runners, making a matted row.

When planting everbearers, remove all blossoms for two months and keep strawberries free of runners. Everbearing strawberries set in the spring should fruit plentifully in late summer of that year and through the fall. Fall-set plants will bear through the following season. Plant everbearing strawberries 30 cm apart in three rows each 30 cm apart. Then allow 60 cm of working space and repeat another three-row bed.

After planting, keep strawberries in clean cultivation and mulch the planting with clean straw. Water your strawberry plantings at least once each week when rainfall is less than 2 cm. Fertilize two or three times throughout the growing season. (See the Winterizing section on page 11 for continued care of container planting.)

Raspberries and Blackberries...Brambles thrive in full sun. They spread from suckers (leafy shoots rising from shallow roots). It is best to grow them in a 60 cm wide row, with rows separated by 1 m of clean cultivation.

Mark off planting sites at 1 m intervals in the row. At each planting site, dig a hole 30 cm wide and 20 cm deep. Hold the plant in the hole with roots spread and the crown (where the stem and roots meet) about 2 cm below ground level. Then, pull in soil around the roots and gently tamp it down to eliminate air pockets. Rake in loose soil to level the bed. Cut the canes to 15 cm and water thoroughly.

Patio Fruits...In early fall, when night temperatures drop below 10°C, plants such as Citrus, Dwarf Banana, Dwarf Fig and Dwarf Pomegranate need to be moved indoors. Provide as much sun as possible; a south- or west-facing window is ideal. Avoid areas that would expose your plants to hot dry air, such as near heat registers. Growth will slow down in winter. Withhold fertilizer at this time and only water as needed. Return to a patio setting once danger of frost has passed in late spring.

Caring for Your Plants

Gardening doesn't have to be a time-consuming chore. By giving your plants, trees and shrubs a little attention, you can avoid problems before they crop up. Here are a few tips for maintaining a healthy garden:

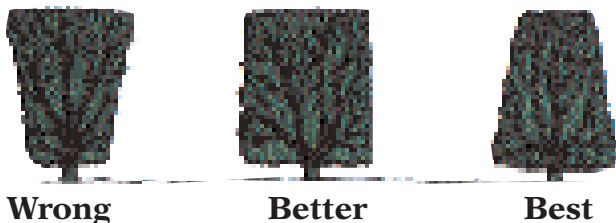
- **Mulching...**Apply a 5-10 cm layer of shredded bark, compost or other organic mulch around your plants to promote moisture retention, maintain even soil temperatures and discourage weed growth.
- **Weeding...**Keep the area around your plants free of weeds and debris. Weeds compete with plants for food, water and light. Walk around your garden weekly and pull weeds, including their roots, as soon as you see them. A top dressing of mulch helps greatly to reduce weeding.
- **Watering...**Plants need moist soil to thrive, especially during their first season. Any week when natural rainfall is less than 2 cm, water your plants with a gentle spray until the ground around them is thoroughly soaked but not soggy. In hot, dry areas, watering twice a week is recommended. Water thoroughly early in the day so leaves can dry before nightfall.

Plants located under trees or eaves and those planted in containers will require more frequent watering.

Consider the use of a soaker hose to conserve water and keep foliage dry. These special hoses have tiny pores that leak water slowly and directly into the soil. Some can even be buried. Soaker hoses are generally available from most garden centres.

• **Deadheading...**Remove spent blossoms promptly to promote additional blooming. Pinch off blooms when they are no longer attractive, but take care to leave as much of the foliage as possible.

• **Grooming...**Groom your plants by clipping off unsightly stems which grow beyond the natural shape of the plant. Cut flower stalks between the bottom blossom and the uppermost leaves.



Proper Hedge Shape

• **Hedge Shearing...**Sheared hedges need clipping whenever new growth is long enough to make the hedge look “fuzzy.” Drive stakes into the ground at the ends of your hedge; attach strings as guides for pruning. On sheared hedges, the top should be narrower than the bottom, with sides slanting gently toward the top (see illustration above). This helps provide equal light from top to bottom so leaves will continue to thrive on the lower branches. Even loose, unsheared hedges should be pruned so the lower branches are slightly longer than those above them.

• **Feeding...**To help your plants achieve maximum growth and blooming, Spring Garden® has developed a special, easy-to-use plant food, which you will find described on the back cover of this growing guide.

- **Winterizing...**At the end of the growing season, cut back dead or withered growth and remove it from the garden. The time to protect plants, trees and shrubs is in the fall after the ground has frozen. Then, apply a winter mulch of shredded leaves, evergreen boughs or straw to prevent lifting of the roots during periods of alternate freezing and thawing.

Some perennials, shrubs and roses appreciate additional protection from drying winter winds. Wrap tender shrubs with burlap or a woven wire cage (such as chicken wire or hardware cloth available at local hardware stores) and fill the cage with leaves or clean straw. Remove the cage when frost danger has passed in the spring.

- **For Container Gardening...**Winter protection is very important. Before freezing weather arrives, move your container indoors to an unheated garage or cellar. Withhold fertilizer and water just enough to keep the soil slightly moist. In spring, when the danger of frost has passed, take the container outside and water thoroughly.

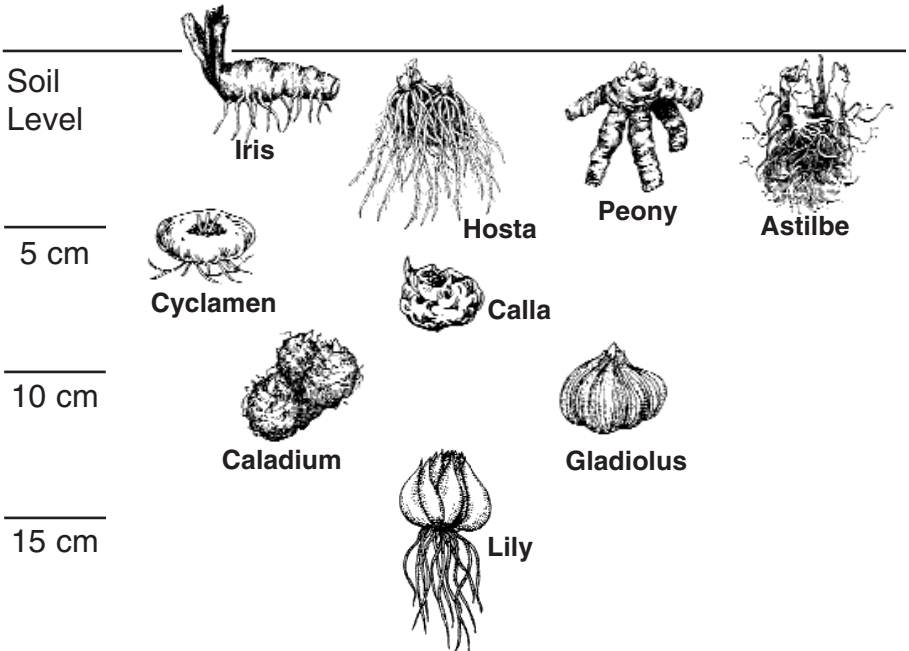
- **Spring Care...**As soon as the weather warms and new growth begins in the spring, carefully loosen the mulch around your plants. Add a dressing of Spring Garden's Advanced Formula Plant Food and apply a fresh 5-10 cm layer of moisture-retaining mulch.

- **Dividing...**When perennial clumps become crowded, it's time to divide them for additional plantings. Early spring is the best time to divide most perennials. (Plants that bloom in spring to early summer, however, should be divided in late summer.)

Using a garden fork, dig the entire clump from the garden, making sure as many roots as possible remain intact. If the clump is very dense, shake or wash out as much soil as you can so you can see the roots. Pull plants out of the clump carefully so that each piece has plenty of roots and top growth. Take care not to break stems or main roots. Keep the healthiest divisions moist and cool until replanting.

- **Lifting Tender Bulbs (such as caladiums, callas, glads, begonias and dahlias)...**Some bulbs must be lifted before a hard freeze in the fall. Begin by lifting the bulbs gently with a garden fork, taking care not to damage them. Let them dry a few days in a frost-free place. Gently remove clinging soil and withered foliage. Store them in a cool (5-8°C is ideal), dry location. If you have space in an empty vegetable compartment of a spare refrigerator, it is ideal for bulb storage. An unheated garage will also work, just insure that your bulbs will not freeze.

Planting Guide for Bareroot



Tips for Preparing New

Perennials require a few simple basics for good growth. The first step toward having a beautiful garden is to select your planting site. Mark it off, then clear the area of all growing material and debris.

Promoting Good Drainage...The next step in garden preparation is to make sure your planting area will have good drainage. Plants appreciate damp—but not soggy—soil. If your soil tends to be claylike and heavy, follow this procedure to encourage drainage:

- Spade or rototill the planting area to a depth of 30-40 cm.
- Apply an equal amount of peat moss, compost, sand or other light material.
- Thoroughly mix the spaded soil and the soil-loosening additives.

(Even if your planting site already has good drainage, you should spade or rototill the ground thoroughly to a depth of at least 30 cm and apply a 10 cm layer of compost or brown peat, mixing the additives thoroughly with the soil.)

Check the Soil Acidity...Plants can't absorb the nutrients they need to grow if the soil doesn't have the proper pH level. (Acidity or alkalinity are measured



Perennials and Bulbs



Daylily



Poppy



Strawberry



Carpet Phlox

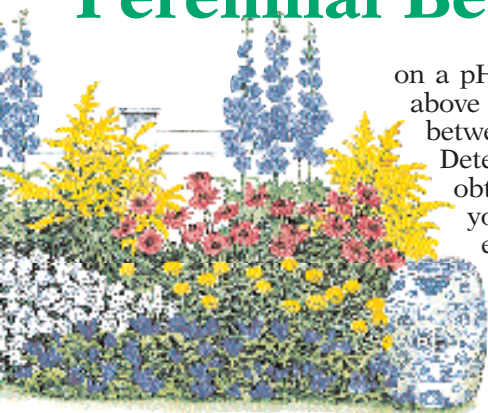


Potted Plant

How Much Sun or Shade?

One of the major factors in creating a beautiful perennial garden is considering the amount of sun or shade each kind of plant prefers. However, the light exposure requirements for each item are general rules of thumb. Sun to partial shade indicates full sun to as much as four or five hours of shade. Factors such as soil pH, winter and summer extremes in temperature, and soil moisture can affect direct sun tolerance in many species.

Perennial Beds & Gardens



on a pH scale ranging from 1.0 to 14.0. Anything above 7.0 is alkaline; below 7.0 is acid. A pH level between 6.5 and 7.5 is ideal for most plants.) Determine the pH of your soil with a kit you can obtain at a local garden centre or check with your county's or state university's agriculture extension service, either of which will test soil for you. If the soil is "sour" (extremely acid), an application of pulverized limestone will help restore the proper pH level. On the other hand, if the soil is too alkaline, it can be brought into balance by adding peat moss and a soil acidifier.

Fertilizing... While all Spring Garden® plants are fully guaranteed to grow without the addition of nutrients to the soil, enriching your planting site with selected nutrients will encourage superior growth and more profuse blooming. An easy way to provide a healthy diet for all types of plants is to enrich your bed or garden with an application of Spring Garden's Advanced Formula Plant Food. The plant food should be mixed thoroughly with the top 30 cm of soil. (See the back cover of this growing guide for additional details about Spring Garden's Advanced Formula Plant Food available exclusively from Spring Garden.)



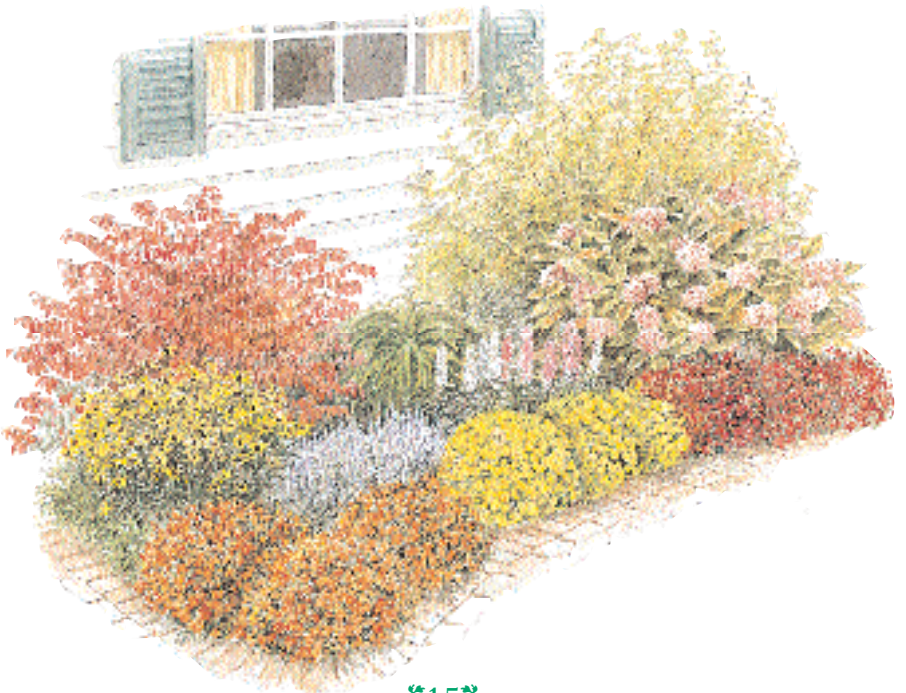
How to Create Beautiful Perennial Gardens

Creating a beautiful perennial garden doesn't require years of experience, hour upon hour of constant care or even a so-called "green thumb." It's more a matter of careful planning and choosing proper planting material, coupled with a heavy dose of common sense.

As a guide to help you achieve outstanding results, Spring Garden's nursery professionals offer these basic guidelines:

- Select a location with good drainage and sufficient sun. Soil which already has plenty of organic matter, ample nutrients and a consistency which allows good air and moisture circulation, as well as good drainage, is a strong foundation for roots and requires little preplanting attention.
- If your soil is claylike and heavy, spade or rototill it to a depth of 30-40 cm. Then mix the soil with an equal amount of peat moss, compost, sand or other light material.
- Even if your garden has good soil with adequate drainage, the bed should be worked to a depth of at least 30 cm before you plant your new perennials.
- Cover your beds with a 5-10 cm layer of mulch so the soil will retain moisture and reduce weed growth. Any organic material may be used as a mulch. Spread the mulch in an even layer about 10 cm deep. (That might seem a bit heavy, but loose mulch will settle down to about half of its original depth.) Be careful not to bury your plants.
- Don't try to fill every available spot at one time. Remember, most perennials multiply and expand annually. For the first year or two, use annuals to fill in around your perennials.
- The best effect comes from massing several similar plants together. It is best to group a minimum of three plants of a single variety in one area.
- Think in terms of three growing heights—background, middle ground and foreground. Taller plants should go to the background, with lower-growing plants in the foreground.

- When mixing perennials, consider the types of foliage as well as the colour and shape of the flowers. The most beautiful perennial beds contain a mixture of different foliage hues and textures.
- Consider seasons of blooming. Mix perennials with different blooming times in each bed so you'll have a continuous display of colour for an extended period.
- Don't position plants in a straight line like a row of soldiers. All perennials look best when plants are staggered in an irregular pattern.
- Consider the amount of sun your garden will receive—not just in the spring, but during the summer and early fall when surrounding trees have their full foliage.
- Don't overlook the reflected light and heat which plants will receive. Perennials which thrive in full sun out in a garden can deteriorate quickly when planted too close to the south or west sides of a building where heat and light are bouncing off the surfaces onto the foliage of nearby plants.
- Choose planting locations with access to water. Since you will need to water plants when rainfall doesn't do the job, consider whether your beds can easily be reached with a garden hose.
- Be patient! Just as “mighty oaks from tiny acorns grow,” it takes time for perennials to develop strong root systems and start producing sizable top growth. Most of the illustrations in Spring Garden's catalogues show how perennials will look after they've had three years to mature in a garden. Much of the joy in creating a beautiful perennial garden is watching your plants grow. The years of charm and beauty they will bring to your garden is well worth the wait!



Easy Ways to Create More Beautiful Gardens

While every plant shipped by Spring Garden is fully guaranteed to grow without enhancing your soil, gardening experts highly recommend adding select nutrients to promote more vigorous growth and longer, brighter blooms. We have developed a special plant food to make it easy for you to provide the proper nutrients for all types of plants. The scientifically compounded formulation is extremely easy to use and won't burn your plants. Not available in local stores or garden centres, it is available exclusively from Spring Garden. To order, call Spring Garden's Order Processing Centre by dialing **800-917-2852**, Monday-Friday 8:00 am-9:00 pm, Saturday 8:00 am-6:00 pm ET or order online at www.SpringGarden.ca.

Spring Garden's Advanced Formula Plant Food...Exclusive! This special mixture of slow-release fertilizers is highly recommended for superior growth and blooming of all your bulbs, perennials and shrubs. Developed by Spring Garden's nursery professionals, it's also easy to apply—just sprinkle the granules at the base of each plant. You'll be amazed by the results. Covers 7 square metres of garden area. **680-gram bag**

**75352 Spring Garden's Advanced
Formula Plant Food
\$6.99 Each 3 for \$18.99**



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