

Shade cast by buildings

Close to a building or high wall plants may not receive direct sun, but such positions are generally "open" allowing some light at all times. Plants in north facing borders often fare better than those planted under the umbrella canopy of a tree. Most flowering plants need light to encourage blooming. As a rule of thumb; the denser the shade, the fewer the flowers.

Light or dappled shade

If you are fortunate enough to share your garden with Silver Birch, Cherries, Crab Apples or other ornamental trees, you are lucky indeed. The light, leafy canopy afforded by such varieties offers filtered light to plants below, plus the bonus of rainfall through the light canopy.

Spread large quantities of compost and manure over the entire area, to at least 15cm (6") deep and fork in deeply. Bulky organic matter helps to retain moisture and provide a cool, nourishing root run for all plants.

Many herbaceous perennials most suited for shade-planting, originate from woodland and are predominantly spring flowering. They have adapted to take advantage of a bare leaf canopy in winter and early spring, completing much of their growth and flowering before mid summer, when sunlight and moisture is shut out by the foliage above.

Secrets of success

Be realistic about the growing conditions you are faced with. You will not be able to have magnificent foliage and colourful flowers throughout the year in deepest shade. Plant what would naturally flourish in these conditions to succeed. Nothing looks worse than a showy plant struggling to survive. Plant instead practical species, that will relish the situation and look great for a long time.

Importance of moisture

As with all plants, water thoroughly before planting and regularly during their first summer. In subsequent years, additional water may be necessary during periods of drought or to encourage lush growth.

plants for...

plants for... Shady Areas

Shady Areas

Haskins Ferndown

Longham, Ferndown
Dorset BH22 9DJ
Tel: 01202 591919

Haskins West End

Mansbridge Road, Gaters Hill
West End, Southampton SO18 3HW
Tel: 023 8047 2324

Haskins Roundstone

Roundstone Bypass, Angmering
West Sussex BN16 4BD
Tel: 01903 777666

Haskins Snowhill

Snowhill Lane, Copthorne
West Sussex RH10 3EY
Tel: 01342 712545



*Anemone var. Japonica
'Pamina'*



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plants for... Shady Areas

Perennials for Shade

Intensity of shade can vary considerably, governing the choice of plants available for the gardener to use.

Divided into three distinct categories, there are important differences between the causes of shade.

Dense Shade

Cast by *Yew*, *Beech* trees or high conifer hedges, under which nothing will grow can be a real headache for any gardener. There is very little available light under such dense canopies and more importantly, little rainfall through it. The simple answer is don't try to plant anything. Put down a decorative mulch of chipped bark, compost or pine cones to cover the surrounding area of impoverished soil. Containers offer a novel solution, providing they are watered regularly and fed once a week with Miracle-Gro All Purpose Plant Food, offering a safe environment free from thirsty tree roots. Ferns, luxuriant Hostas and spring flowering *Pulmonaria*'s will all do well as container plants along with many others. Group closely together and add mossy logs and branches to complete the display.

Outdoor lighting can transform dark corners, washing colour into the branches of specimen trees. Position up-lighters or spot lights around the trunk to "light-scape" an area in less than an hour.



Luxuriant shade planting.

Herbaceous Perennials for shady areas

Latin Name:	Common Name:	Shade Tolerance:	Moisture Tolerance:	Deciduous or Evergreen:	Flower Colour:
<i>Aconitum</i> - most	Wolfbane	Light to Moderate	Damp	Deciduous	Blue, purple, cream or yellow
<i>Ajuga</i> - most	Bugle	Any	Any	Semi-Evergreen	Blue, purple or pink
<i>Alchemilla</i> - all	Ladies Mantle	Light to Moderate	Any	Deciduous	Lime green
<i>Anemone x hybrida</i>	Japanese Anemone	Light to Moderate	Any	Deciduous	Carmine, pink or white
<i>Aquilegia</i> - most	Grannys Bonnets	Light to Moderate	Any	Semi-Evergreen	Mixed colours
<i>Arunco</i> - all	Goat's Beard	Light to Moderate	Moist	Deciduous	Creamy white
<i>Astilbe</i> - all	False Goat's Beard	Light to Moderate	Moist	Deciduous	Red, pink, lilac or white
<i>Astrantia</i> - all	Melancholy Gentleman	Light to Moderate	Any	Deciduous	Reds, pinks, or white
<i>Bergenia</i> - all	Elephants Ears	Any	Any	Evergreen	Red-ish pink to white
<i>Brunnera</i> - all	Perennial Forget-me-not	Any	Any	Deciduous	Purple-blue or white
<i>Campanula</i> - many	Bellflower	Light to Moderate	Moist	Deciduous	Pink, purple, blue or white
<i>Cimicifuga</i> - all	Bugbane	Light to Moderate	Moist	Deciduous	Cream or white
<i>Dicentra</i> - most	Bleeding Heart	Light to Moderate	Moist	Deciduous	Red-ish pink or white
<i>Digitalis</i> - most	Foxglove	Any	Any	Semi-Evergreen	Variety of colours
<i>Epimedium</i> - all	Bishops Hat	Any	Any	Both, dependant on variety	Yellow, orange, red, pink, purple or white
<i>Euphorbia</i> - many	Spurge	Any	Any	Both, dependant on variety	Lime green to orange
<i>Geranium</i> - many	Crane's Bill	Any	Any	Both, dependant on variety	Red-ish pink, pink, blue, purple or white
<i>Hacquetia epipactis</i>	-	Any	Any	Deciduous	Yellow
<i>Helleborus argutifolius</i>	Corsican Hellebore	Light to Moderate	Any	Evergreen	Greenish yellow
<i>H. foetidus</i>	Stinking Hellebore	Light to Moderate	Any	Evergreen	Green, red rim
<i>H. orientalis hybrids</i>	Lenten Rose	Light to Moderate	Moist	Evergreen	Mixed colours
<i>x Heucherella 'Bridget Bloom'</i>	-	Any	Moist	Evergreen	Pink
<i>Hosta</i> - all	Plantain Lily	Any	Moist	Deciduous	Purple, lilac or white
<i>Mimulus</i> - most	Monkey Flower	Light to Moderate	Moist	Deciduous	Mixed colours
<i>Omphalodes</i> - all	Blue-eyed Mary	Any	Any	Deciduous	Blue or white
<i>Pachysandra</i> - all	Japanese Spurge	Any	Any	Evergreen	Creamy white
<i>Polygonatum</i> - all	Solomon's Seal	Any	Moist	Deciduous	White or pink with green markings
<i>Pulmonaria</i> - all	Lungwort	Light to Moderate	Moist	Evergreen	Purplish-blue, pink or white
<i>Rogersia</i> - most	-	Any	Moist	Deciduous	White or pink
<i>Symphytum</i> - all	Comfrey	Light	Any	Deciduous	Blue, pink or white
<i>Tanacetum parthenium 'Aureum'</i>	Golden Feverfew	Light to Moderate	Any	Evergreen	White, yellow centre
<i>Tellima grandiflora</i>	Fringe Cups	Any	Moist	Semi-Evergreen	Greenish yellow
<i>Thalictrum</i> - many	Meadow Rue	Light to Moderate	Moist	Deciduous	Pink, lilac, violet, yellow or white
<i>Tiarella cordifolia</i>	Foam Flower	Any	Any	Deciduous	White or pinkish white
<i>Tolmeia menziesi 'Taff's Gold'</i>	Piggy-Back Plant	Light to Moderate	Moist	Deciduous	Pale green with purple markings
<i>Uvularia grandiflora</i>	Merry Bells	Any	Moist	Deciduous	Yellow
<i>Veronica</i> - many	Speedwell	Light	Moist	Semi-Evergreen	Purple, blue, pink or white
<i>Viola</i> - many	Violet	Any	Moist	Both, dependant on variety	Mixed Clours
<i>Waldsteinia ternata</i>	Barren Strawberry	Any	Moist	Evergreen	Yellow
Grass and grass-like plants					
<i>Carex</i> - most	Sedge	Light to Moderate	Moist	Evergreen	Green, brown or yellow
<i>Deschampsia cespitosa</i>	Hair grass	Light to Moderate	Moist	Deciduous	Yellowish green
<i>Hakenochoa macra 'Aureola'</i>	-	Light to Moderate	Moist	Deciduous	Pale green
<i>Holcus mollis 'Albovariegatus'</i>	Soft Grass	Light	Moist	Deciduous	Pale green
<i>Luzula</i> - all	Woodrush	Light to Moderate	Any	Evergreen	White or brown
<i>Millium effusum 'Bowles Golden Grass'</i>	Wood Millet	Light	Any	Deciduous	Lime green
<i>Molinia caerulea Variegata</i>	Moor Grass	Light to Moderate	Moist	Deciduous	Pale yellow and purple

NB: Availability of some varieties may be limited, due to scarcity of supply. If unavailable from our normal suppliers, we shall refer customers to an alternative source.