

TREAT MOM TO OUR WONDERFUL WORLD OF FLOWERS

OPEN TODAY 9 TO 5

Stoughton

GARDEN CENTER

Keep the garden blooming

How to have a beautiful flower garden all summer long

Your garden is a living work of art that changes shape, color and form as the seasons pass. Finding the right plants to make sure your garden is always in bloom takes time and planning. Use this guide to help you find what plants are best for your garden.

Every garden is unique, but to make your masterpiece successful there are a number of factors to keep in mind. Understanding the type of soil you are working with, noting the lighting requirements for your plants and knowing how often you will be able to water your garden are just a few of the factors to consider. Then there's also factors of appearance like color, height, bloom and foliage combinations that can make your garden stand out above the rest.

Maintenance
An inch per week is about the amount of water a garden needs. To keep track of how much water your garden is getting you can put in a rain gauge. Another trick to a successful garden is to deadhead flowers. This is when you pinch off the heads of flowers when they stop blooming so that new blossoms can grow.

Soil quality
Soil can often have a clay or sandy consistency, which is not ideal for gardening. To help your plants grow use organic materials like compost, peat moss, leaves or grass clippings to enrich your soil.

Plant spacing
There's a saying related to planting perennials: "Second year creep, third year leap." This supports the idea that your plants will spread over the years. So when you plant them keep in mind how far they will grow to avoid overcrowding.

Texture and leaf type
Embrace variety in the different types of textures of your garden. Alongside your flowering plants include grasses, hostas and more to create layers and movement. Variegated leaves can add interest when flowers are off-bloom.

Plant shape
Plants can grow in multiple shapes. Some will grow up while others grow out. Shorter plants might form a mat in your garden bed. A variety of these shapes will make your garden more eye-catching by adding nice layers.

Grasses
Grasses add height, structure, texture and movement to a garden as they sway in the wind. They are also durable and easy to grow. The best grasses are native here including:

- Prairie dropseed
- Switchgrass
- Bluestem

Hostas
Beautiful leafy hostas can bloom flowers pretty enough to cut and put in a vase. They are hardy plants that require little maintenance. Here are some fun hostas to consider for your garden:

- Sum and substance
- Krossa regal
- June

Color theory

There is no right color scheme, because it's a matter of personal taste, but here are some different ways to approach color in your garden.



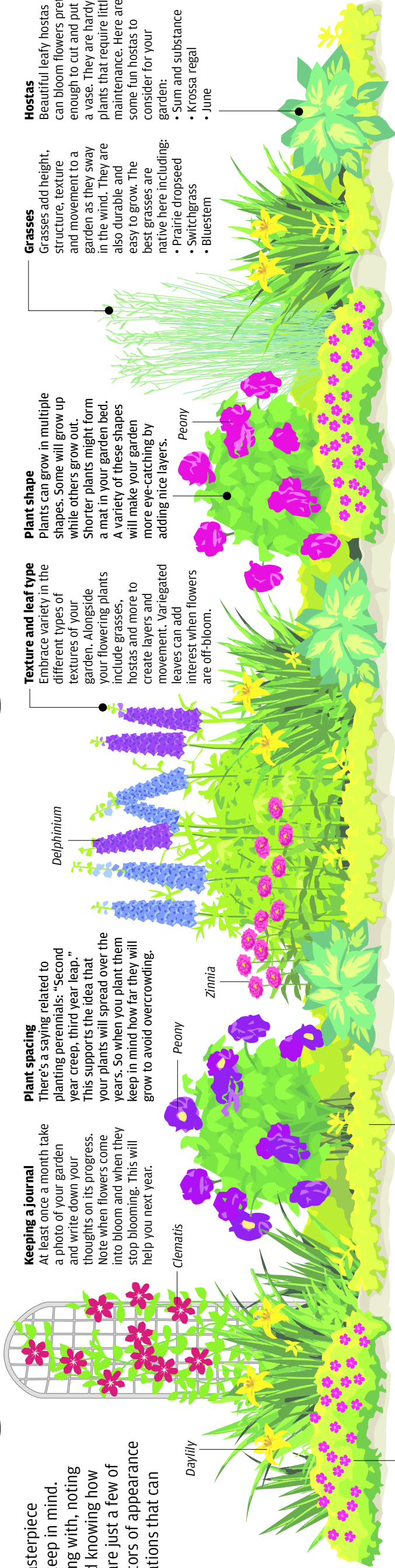
Analogous
Colors near each other on the color wheel



Complement
Colors directly opposite from each other



Triad
Three colors evenly separated on the color wheel



PERENNIALS ▶ Early Spring

Forsythia
○ Height: 4'-10' ●
As a flowering shrub this is one of the few tall plants that will bloom this early in the season.

Virginia bluebell
●● Height: 6"-2' ●
These native plants attract pollinators like butterflies and bloom early in the season in a cool blue color.

Bloodroot
●● Height: 6"-12" ○
This native woodland plant creates large patches of small white flowers in a garden that will spread over the years.

Mid-Spring

Lilac
○● Height: 4'-20' ○●●●●
This fragrant shrub will give your garden the smell of spring while blossoming beautiful flowers that are great fresh cut.

Bleeding-heart
●● Height: 2'-3' ○●●
These drooping flowers fill a lot of space and are popular with children because of their sweetheart shape.

Creeping phlox
○● Height: 6" ○●●●●●
Often used on rock walls and to bring new colors to a garden, this small flower offers a lot of variety.

Late Spring

Delphinium
○● Height: 2'-5' ○●●●●
The flowers of these tall plants are beautiful when cut and brought inside for floral arrangements.

Peony
○ Height: 2'-3' ○●●●●
Even though this fragrant flower doesn't bloom all season, they stay open and leafy through the summer.

Cranesbill
○● Height: 6"-18" ○●●●●
Also known as a hardy geranium, these fragrant plants have a long bloom period and lots of color varieties.

Early Summer

Clematis
○● Height: 5'-15' ○●●●●
This climbing vine blooms vibrant flowers over structures, walls, or even shrubs it crawls over.

Daylily
○● Height: 18"-4' ○●●●●
The daylily is a tough flower. Anyone can grow them and they come in a wide variety of colors and heights.

Stonecrop sedum
○ Height: 4"-18" ○●●●●
This spreading mat-forming flower is great even after it's done blooming because it has nice foliage.

Mid-Summer

Hollyhock
○● Height: 5'-6' ○●●●●
Hollyhocks are old-fashioned flowers that give a garden a romantic feeling with their big showy blossoms.

Bee balm
○ Height: 30"-3' ○●●●●
The flowers of this plant come in multiple colors and are also edible. Bee balm is the flavor in Earl Grey tea.

Geum
○ Height: 12"-24" ○●●●●
This flower will add warmth to your garden in its bright yellow, orange red varieties.

Late Summer

Aster
○ Height: 2'-5' ○●●●●
Native to North America, these flowers attract natural pollinators and make for great fresh cut flowers.

Goldenrod
○ Height: 2'-5' ●
Sometimes mistakenly blamed as a cause for hay fever, goldenrod flowers add a yellow glow to any garden.

Fall blooming crocus
○● Height: 6"-10" ○●●●●●
These small flowers bloom late in the summer and will even carry over into the early fall season.

ANNUALS ▶

While annuals don't come back every year, they keep your garden bright and colorful for the full gardening season. They're also great for attracting pollinators like hummingbirds and butterflies.

Salvia
○● Height: 18"-3' ○●●●●
These are the best annuals for attracting hummingbirds because they bloom nonstop throughout the season.

Lantana
○ Height: 12"-24" ○●●●●
This fragrant flower comes in warm colors that will brighten your garden and attract butterflies.

Zinnia
○ Height: 12"-30" ○●●●●
Zinnias come in bright colors and vary in height. With their unique layered look, they add nice color to any garden.

Begonia
●● Height: 12"-24" ○●●●●
These shade-growing flowers come in a lot of colors and can even be brought inside to brighten up a home.

Celosia
○ Height: 12"-24" ○●●●●
Also known as a cockscomb because the flower resembles a rooster's feather, celosia makes a beautiful cut flower and is durable.

SOURCES: Rick Halbach, Klein's Floral and Greenhouses; Ben Futa, Allen Centennial Garden; UW-Extension; Flora of Wisconsin Consortium of Wisconsin Herbaria; USDA Plant database; Cornell University LAURA SPARKS; ALLISON GARCIA - Wisconsin State Journal