

Plant Guide

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Abelia

(Abelia)



Abelia is known for its vibrant foliage and long bloom times, the Abelia Genus consists of about 30 species of both deciduous and evergreen shrubs.

Hardy in Zones 4 - 11

Agapanthus

(Agapanthus)

Agapanthus, aka: Lily of the Nile & African Lily is a drought tolerant perennial with striking blue or white flowers that bloom in the summer. Blooms attract bees, butterflies, and birds. Makes a good cut flower for bouquets and arrangements. A low maintenance plant requiring little pruning or fertilizing. Prefers sunny or partly shady locations in the landscape.

Hardy in Zones 8 - 11.



Ardisia

(Ardisia Crenata)



Ardisia is a small evergreen shrub that has narrow, glossy green leaves and clusters of red berries throughout the year. It's an easy grower and can be a phenomenal indoor plant. Has earned the common name Christmas berry for the dark green leaves and red berry clusters in winter.

Hardy in Zones 8 - 10.

Asiatic Jasmine

(Trachelospermum Asiaticum)

A Fragrant Groundcover

Asiatic jasmine is a fast-growing, evergreen, vine-like plant that is often used as a low-maintenance groundcover in warm climates. It is not a true jasmine, but it has small, star-shaped white to yellow flowers that are similar to jasmine and emit a sweet scent in the summer.

Hardy in Zones 7b to 10.



Azalea

(Rhododendron) Some varieties native to North America



Azaleas bloom in spring with the flowers sometimes lasting several weeks. Is native to several continents including Asia, Europe, and North America. Plant enthusiasts have selectively bred azaleas for hundreds of years producing over 10,000 cultivars. Azaleas are shade tolerant and prefer living near or under trees.

Hardy in Zones 4 - 9.

Camellia

(Sasanqua)

The **Camellia** is a flowering evergreen shrub with dark, glossy leaves and large, lush blossoms that appear and bloom for several weeks during the fall through early spring period in warmer regions.

You'll find two primary species of camellias in American gardens: japonica and sasanqua camellias. The latter are hardier and tougher than the japonicas, tolerating drought and resisting disease better. Both require a little pruning, however, to maintain their beauty.

Hardy in Zones 7 - 9.



Cassia Tree

(Cassia Fistula)



Cassia Tree is widely grown as an ornamental plant in tropical and subtropical areas. It is a medium sized deciduous or semi-deciduous tree. Has spreading branches that form an open crown.

Hardy in Zones 10b - 11.

Cast Iron Plant

(Aspidistra Elatior)

Cast Iron plant is aptly named - hardy and forgiving. Plant in heavily shaded areas for outdoor landscaping or use as a houseplant. Grows well in low light and is not finicky about regular water. A slow grower but performs for many years.

Hardy in Zones 6 - 11



Cleyera

(Ternstroemia Gymnanthera)



Cleyera shrubs grow between 8 and 10 feet tall with a spread of about 6 feet and have a dense, rounded growth habit that makes them ideal for use as hedges or screens. It is an undemanding shrub that needs little pruning.

Hardy in Zones 8 - 10.

Contorted Mulberry

(Morus Alba)

The Contorted Mulberry, aka Contorted Unryu Mulberry and Corkscrew Mulberry, are grown as an ornamental plant in the home landscape. They bring great interest during all garden seasons and draw wildlife with their fruit and foliage. A distinguishing feature of the interesting tree is the contorted or twisted branches that are often used in flower arrangements.

Hardy in Zones 5 - 9.



Crepe Myrtle

(Lagerstroemia)

A Southern Beauty



Crepe myrtle is a flowering tree or shrub native to Asia and widely grown in the southern U.S. Crepe myrtles are medium maintenance trees that thrive with very little fuss if given the basics: sun, water, and a light trim now and again.

Hardy in Zones 6 - 9.

Crimson Bottlesbrush

(Calistemon Citrinus)

Bottlebrush is an evergreen shrub with apply named blooms. Blooms are a favorite of hummingbirds, bees, and butterflies.

Hardy in Zones 8 - 11.



Dwarf Indian Hawthorn

(Phaphiolepsis Indica)



Dwarf Indian Hawthorn is a relatively small, evergreen shrub the naturally grows in a neat, rounded shape. It can grow up to 3 to 6 feet tall. Is a great landscaping choice for warmer climates. Is a good choice for coastal areas as it is tolerant of salt spray and sandy soils.

Hardy in Zones 8 - 10.

Fatsia(Aralia Japonica or Fatsia Japonica)

Fatsia is a tropical plant that makes a bold statement in the garden, in outdoor containers, or as a houseplant. Grows best in medium to full shade. Likes a slightly acidic, moist, compost rich soil. Has clusters of bright white flowers and then shiny black berries follow that birds love.

Hardy in Zones 8 - 11.



Firespike Plant

(Odontonema Strictum)



Firespike is a hardy herbaceous perennial with large showy spikes of bright red tubular flowers that bloom during autumn. These flowers attract many species of hummingbirds and butterflies. Grows and blooms in full sun to full shade.

Hardy in Zones 10 - 11.

Forest Pansy Redbud

(Cercis Canadensis) Native to Eastern North America

Forest Pansy Redbud is a beautiful landscape tree for its brilliant scarlet-purple color to maroon foliage and its rosypink flowers on bare branches in early spring.

Hardy in Zones 5 - 9.



Fried Egg Tree

(Gordonia Axillaris)



Fried Egg Tree is an interesting plant that thrives in swampy areas along the Atlantic and in the Gulf Coastal Plains in the United States. Gets is name because its big white flowers with yellow center bears a strong resemblance to a fried egg.

Hardy in Zones 9 - 11

Fringe Tree

(Chionanthus Viginicus) Native to Eastern North America

Fringe tree is a native shrub or small tree with fragrant, white, fringe-like flowers in late spring or early summer. Other common names are Grancy Graybeard or Old Man's Beard. Grows in full sun or partial shade and is drought and pest tolerant. Is a beautiful and versatile plant.

Hardy in Zones 3 - 9



Gardenia

(Gardenia Jasminoides)



Gardenias are beloved for their intoxicating fragrant, and attractive, waxy, creamy-white flowers. Gardenias demand high humidity to thrive.

Hardy in Zones 6 - 11.

Giant Thalia

(Thalia Dealbata)
Native to the Southern United States

Giant Thalia, aka: hardy canna, alligator flag, and powdery thalia, is an aquatic plant native to swamps, ponds, and other wetlands in the southern and central U.S. Grows to 6 feet tall with small violet flowers on 8-inch panicles held above the foliage.

Hardy in Zones 6 - 10.







The **Golden Rain Tree** is a bright and hardy ornamental. Produces bright yellow flowers that attract bees and butterflies. It has distinct fruit pods that are inflated and bladder-like that change color from green to orange to pink. Has become a popular landscape tree for its shade, tolerance, and beauty. Is a medium to fast grower and transplants and self-seeds easily.

Hardy in Zones 5-9.

Holly Tree

(Ilex)
Native to the Eastern United States

Holly Tree is from a genius of over 500 species. Is most widely recognizable due to their association with Christmas decorations and traditions. Can add a pop of green to a winter landscape. They grow year-round and provide cover and food sources during the winter for many birds and other wildlife.

Hardy in Zones 5 - 9.



Japanese Maple

(Acer Palmatum)

A Colorful Ornamental Tree



A small deciduous tree native to Japan and East Asia. There are over a thousand cultivars and varieties of Acer Palmatum. Prized for it delicate and colorful foliage that changes with the seasons. Prefers moist, well-drained, slightly acidic soil and partial shade or dappled sunlight, especially in hot climates.

Hardy in Zones 5 - 8.

Ligustrum

(Ligustrum Japonicum)

Ligustrum, aka Japanese Privet is a popular and versatile shrub in warm winter areas where it is often trained into topiary specimens, hedges or screens. It also makes an attractive small standard tree. Is toxic to dogs, cats, and horses if ingested.

Hardy in Zones 7 - 11.



Live Oak

(Quercus Virginiana)

Native to Southeastern United States



Live Oaks are found along the coastlines of the Gulf of Mexico and the Atlantic from Texas to Virginia, the live oak is emblematic of the deep south. It thrives on heat and humidity. Is a tough, enduring specimen that can live for several hundred years if planted and cared for correctly.

Hardy in Zones 8 - 10.

Little John Bottlebrush

(Calistemon Viminalis)

Little John Bottlebrush has blood red bottlebrush-like flower spikes that cover this dwarf evergreen shrub frons ping into summer. In warn, temperate regions it will continue to bloom intermittently throughout the year. Perfect size for smaller and container gardens. Blooms attract hummingbirds and butterflies.

Hardy in Zones 8 - 11.



Mahonia

(Mahonia Eurybracteata)
Native to the Western United States



Mahonia's are known to be slow-growing, hardy, and low-maintenance shrubs. Appropriate site selection is essential for their success. Easy to grow and have an almost tropical look. Floral sprays are fragrant golden-yellow in late winter and/or early spring and are attractive to pollinators. The dark berries appeal to various birds. The plant is evergreen and is deer resistant.

Hardy in Zones 5 - 9.

Muhly Grass

(Muhlenbergia Capillaris) Native to the United States

Muhly Grass is a beautiful, low maintenance ornamental grass. Comes in either pink or white. In the spring and summer, the slender, long shoots of grass are green in color. As fall approached the plant produces fuzzy flowers which are often compared to the appearance of cotton candy. As the flowers lose their color in the winter the dried plumes continue to offer visual appeal. Is drought and salt tolerant once established.

Hardy in Zones 6 - 9.



Nandina

(Nandina Domestica)



Nandina, aka Heavenly Bamboo and Sacred Bamboo is an attractive heat and drought tolerant evergreen. While not a bamboo, nandina possesses bamboo-like features. Several cultivars available including dwarf varieties. Tolerates full sun to deep shade. Blooms and fruits. Berries are toxic to birds, most notably cedar waxwings. Nandina is considered invasive. Blooms and berries should be removed to prevent spread.

Hardy in Zones 6 - 10.

Oakleaf Hydrangea

(Hydrangea Quercifolia)

Native to the Southern United States

Oakleaf Hydrangea is native to the southeastern U.S. where it grows in moist woods and stream banks. Blooms from late spring to early summer. Blooming occurs on old wood, prune if needed immediately after flowering.

Hardy in Zones 5 - 9.



Plum Yew

(Cephalotaxus Harringtonia "Prostrata")



Plum Yew "Prostrata" is a slow growing evergreen, needled shrub with a spreading mounding habit. Tolerant of shade, heat, and drought and is deer resistant. Works well as a low hedge plant.

Hardy in Zones 6 - 9.

Pond Cypress

(Taxodium Ascendens)
Native to the Southeastern United States

Pond Cypress is native to North America from Southeastern Virginia to Southeastern Louisiana and South into Florida except for the Florida Keys. Pond Cypress like Bald Cypress have a distinct characteristic growth trait called *Cypress Knees* – woody projections called "pneumatophores" which are sent upwards from the roots. A slow grower but can reach 70' tall.

Hardy in Zones 5 - 9.



Resurrection Fern

(Pleopeltis Polypodioides)

Native to the Southeastern North America



Resurrection Fern can be found in a variety of habitats, but it needs a host plant or other substrate on which to anchor itself. It often favors oak trees. Found throughout the Southeast, as far North as New York and as far West as Texas. Gets its name because, in dry weather, the fern's fronds curl up, turn brown, and seem to be dead-that is, until the next rain, when they turn green and spring back to life.

Hardy in Zones 6 – 10.

Sabal Palmetto

(Sabal Palmetto)
Native to the subtropical coastal regions of the United States

Sabal palmetto is known by many names – Cabbage Palm, Sabal Palm, Blue Palmetto, Carolina Palmetto, Common Palmetto, Garfield's Tree, and Swamp Cabbage. It is native to the Southern United states, the Yucatan Peninsula in Mexico, and the West Indies. Is known as hardy, cold tolerant, drought tolerant, and salt tolerant. Thrives on heat and humidity. It is the official state tree of both Florida and South Carolina.

Hardy in Zones 8b - 11.



Sago Palm

(Cycastevoluta)

A Living Fossil



Sago palm is a cycad, not a true palm, that dates back to prehistoric times. Can be grown as a houseplant or outdoor container plant in cooler climates. Is extremely slow growing, reaching only 2 to 3 feet in several years. Takes 10 years to reach maturity and flower for the first time. Toxic to humans and pets if ingested. As an outdoor landscape plant.

Hardy in Zones 9 - 10.

Split Leaf Philodendron

(Philodendron Selloum)

A Tropical Plant

Philodendron plants are tropical flowering plants in the family Araceae. They have large, green leaves that can be heart-shaped, lobed, or split. Can be grown as an indoor/houseplant. Is highly toxic to animals if ingested. As an outdoor landscape plant.

Hardy in Zones 8b - 11.



Southern Magnolia

(Magnolia Grandiflora)

Native to the Southeastern United States

The Splendid Southern Magnolia



Southern Magnolia is a large evergreen tree with fragrant white flowers and glossy green leaves. It is native to the Southeastern United States.

Hardy in Zones 6 - 10.

Spirea

(Spirea)

Spirea plants are a hardy deciduous-leaved shrub. Used as ornamental plants in temperate climates, particularly for their showy clusters of dense flowers.

Hardy in Zones 4 - 8.



Sunshine Ligustrum

(Ligustrum Sinense)



Sunshine Ligustrum, aka Sunshine Privet, is ideal as a hedge in the landscape. Offers golden foliage that flourishes in full sun. Drought tolerant once established. Is a sterile and non-invasive cultivar and will not re-seed into the landscape.

Hardy in Zone 6a - 10b.

Sweetbells/Hobblebush

(Leucothoe)
Native to the Eastern United States

Sweetbells is a unique plant that generally requires no special attention. Prefers moist soil and full sun. Flowers are fragrant.

Hardy in Zones 6 - 9.



Sword Fern

(Polystichum Munitum)

Native to Western North America



Sword Ferns are generally low-maintenance, easy-care plants. Happily grow outdoors where they are accustomed to warm summers and cold winters, and do best in consistently moist, humid conditions.

Hardy in Zones 5 – 9.

Tea Olive

(Osmanthus Fragrans)

Tea Olives an easy to grow evergreen shrub. It produces clusters of small white/buttery flowers and are well-loved for their heady floral perfume. Their blossoms appear in spring, blooming heavily through early summer, and the flowering intermittently through fall.

Hardy in Zones 8b - 11.



Tractor Seat Plant

(Farfugium Japonica)



Tractor Seat Plant can grow up to 2 ft tall and wide. It is a clump-forming perennial with extralarge, long-stalked, leathery, kidney-shaped, glossy dark green leaves that can grow to 12" across. Performs best in partial sun or shade in organically rich, consistently moist, well drained soils. In late summer to fall, clusters of paleyellow daisy flowers bloom on branched stems that rise above the foliage.

Hardy in Zones 7 - 10.

Tulip Magnolia

(Magnolia Liliiflora)

The **Tulip Magnolia**, aka Lily Magnolia, is a slow growing, ornamental, deciduous shrub or small tree. Grows best in full sun to part shade. Makes for a beautiful specimen tree.

Hardy in Zones 5 - 9.



Tung Oil Tree

(Vernicia Fordii)



The seeds of the **Tung Oil Tree** are rich in unsaturated oils and are harvested to be used in the production of lacquers, varnishes, linoleum, oilcloth, resins, paints, greases, brake-linings, polishing compounds, and artificial leather. Early in the 1900's, the importation of these oils reached millions of gallons per year. Due to the high demand for the oils, this tree was brought to the US by Gulf Coast farmers in search of a cash crop. Now synthetic resins and oils have become an alternative. All parts of this tree are poisonous.

Hardy in Zones 8 to 11.

Vintage Jade

(Distyllium)

Vintage Jade is a spreading evergreen shrub with dark green, disease-resistant foliage. It is ideal for foundation plantings, covering large areas, or replacing boxwood and other evergreens.

Hardy in Zones 7 - 9.



Variegated Shell Ginger

(Alpinia Zerumbet)



Variegated Shell Ginger is a popular herbaceous perennial in warm climates. Grown primarily for its beautiful foliage. Thrives in partly sunny areas with moist soil. Also is a popular houseplant.

Hardy in Zones 8b - 10.

Wedelia or Creeping-oxeye

(Sphagneticola Trilobata)
Native to the South Central United States

Wedelia will grow in full shade, part shade, part sun, and full sun. It is drought tolerant once established and LOVES HEAT! It is a plant that will grow and thrive almost anywhere as long as the weather is warm enough. It does however have an extremely aggressive spreading habit and can become invasive.

Hardy in Zones 9 - 11.

