

SEASONAL FRONT DOOR FLOWERS GUIDE

Plant Lists, Maintenance Calendars & Arrangement Templates

for Year-Round Curb Appeal

■ SPRING	■■ SUMMER	■ AUTUMN	❄️ ■ WINTER
Fresh Blooms	Bold Colors	Warm Tones	Evergreen Beauty

Welcome to your complete guide for creating stunning front door flower displays throughout the year. This guide provides everything you need: carefully curated plant lists for each season, detailed maintenance calendars to keep your arrangements thriving, and arrangement templates for containers of all sizes. Whether you're a seasoned gardener or just starting out, these expert recommendations will help you achieve professional-looking results that welcome guests and enhance your home's curb appeal.

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■ SPRING GUIDE: Fresh Beginnings

March through May

Recommended Spring Plants

Plant Name	Light	Water	Height	Colors Available
Tulips	Full Sun	Moderate	12-24"	All colors, bi-colors
Daffodils	Sun/Part Shade	Moderate	6-20"	Yellow, white, orange
Hyacinths	Full Sun	Moderate	8-12"	Purple, pink, white, blue
Pansies	Sun/Part Shade	Regular	6-9"	All colors, faces
Primrose	Part Shade	Regular	6-12"	Yellow, pink, red, purple
Ranunculus	Full Sun	Moderate	12-18"	Pink, red, orange, yellow
Sweet Alyssum	Sun/Part Shade	Regular	4-8"	White, purple, pink
Violas	Sun/Part Shade	Regular	6-8"	Purple, yellow, white

Spring Arrangement Tips

- Layer bulbs at different depths for continuous blooming (lasagna planting)
- Combine early, mid, and late-spring bloomers for 3 months of color
- Add trailing ivy or vinca for elegant spillover effect
- Protect from late frosts with burlap covers when needed
- Deadhead spent blooms to encourage continued flowering

Pro Tip: Plant tulip bulbs in autumn for spring displays. For instant spring color, purchase pre-bloomed plants from nurseries and transfer to decorative containers.

Spring Maintenance Calendar

Week	Tasks
Early March	Remove winter protection gradually; check for frost damage; begin fertilizing with balanced fertilizer
Mid March	Plant cool-season annuals; divide overcrowded perennials; mulch to retain moisture
Late March	Deadhead early bloomers; watch for pests; adjust watering as temps rise
Early April	Transition to spring display; plant mid-season bulbs; prune dead foliage
Mid April	Peak bloom care: support tall stems; continue deadheading; liquid feed weekly
Late April	Prepare for warmer weather; begin hardening off summer plants
May	Transition planning; reduce watering for spring bulbs; prepare summer containers

■■ SUMMER GUIDE: Bold & Beautiful

June through August

Recommended Summer Plants

Plant Name	Light	Water	Height	Colors Available
Petunias	Full Sun	Regular	6-18"	All colors, stripes
Geraniums	Full Sun	Moderate	12-24"	Red, pink, white, salmon
Calibrachoa	Full Sun	Regular	6-12"	All colors, trailing
Lantana	Full Sun	Low	12-36"	Yellow, orange, red, pink
Mandevilla	Full Sun	Regular	Vine	Pink, red, white
Hibiscus	Full Sun	Regular	24-48"	Red, pink, yellow, orange
Zinnias	Full Sun	Moderate	12-36"	All colors except blue
Begonias	Part Shade	Regular	8-18"	Red, pink, white, orange
Coleus	Part Shade	Regular	12-36"	Foliage: red, green, purple
Sweet Potato Vine	Sun/Shade	Regular	Trailing	Lime, purple, bronze

Summer Arrangement Tips

- Choose heat-tolerant varieties for south-facing entrances
- Group plants with similar water needs together
- Use self-watering containers for consistent moisture
- Add thriller-filler-spiller elements for visual interest
- Consider afternoon shade protection in extreme heat zones

Pro Tip: Water in early morning to reduce evaporation and prevent fungal diseases. Consider installing a drip irrigation system for vacation-proof care.

Summer Maintenance Calendar

Week	Tasks
Early June	Plant summer annuals after last frost; establish watering schedule; apply slow-release fertilizer
Mid June	Monitor for pests (aphids, spider mites); pinch back leggy growth; mulch to cool roots
Late June	Increase watering frequency; deadhead spent blooms; check drainage
July	Peak heat care: water twice daily if needed; mist foliage; fertilize every 2 weeks
Early August	Refresh tired plants; cut back leggy petunias by half; continue pest monitoring
Late August	Begin transition planning; reduce fertilizer; let some plants set seed

■ AUTUMN GUIDE: Warm Harvest Tones

September through November

Recommended Autumn Plants

Plant Name	Light	Water	Height	Colors Available
Chrysanthemums	Full Sun	Regular	12-36"	Orange, yellow, red, purple
Ornamental Kale	Full Sun	Moderate	12-18"	Purple, white, pink centers
Asters	Full Sun	Moderate	12-36"	Purple, pink, white
Sedum (Stonecrop)	Full Sun	Low	6-24"	Pink, red, rust
Ornamental Peppers	Full Sun	Moderate	8-12"	Red, orange, purple, yellow
Pansies	Sun/Part Shade	Regular	6-9"	All colors (fall comeback)
Heuchera	Part Shade	Regular	8-18"	Foliage: burgundy, coral, lime
Ornamental Grasses	Full Sun	Low	12-48"	Tan, burgundy, variegated
Croton	Sun/Part Shade	Moderate	12-36"	Foliage: red, orange, yellow

Autumn Arrangement Tips

- Incorporate natural elements: gourds, mini pumpkins, dried corn
- Layer different heights for visual drama
- Use warm metallics (copper pots, bronze accents) for containers
- Ornamental kale becomes more vibrant after light frost
- Transition gradually from summer to autumn colors

Pro Tip: Purchase mums with mostly closed buds for longer display life. Pinch off any open flowers at purchase to redirect energy to unopened buds.

Autumn Maintenance Calendar

Week	Tasks
Early Sept	Begin autumn transition; plant mums and kale; reduce fertilizer applications
Mid Sept	Remove spent summer plants; add fall decorative elements; adjust watering
Late Sept	Full autumn display; plant spring bulbs in ground; protect from early frost
Early Oct	Peak display maintenance; deadhead mums; water before freezes
Mid Oct	Add protective mulch; bring tender plants indoors; clean empty containers
Late Oct	Prepare for winter; collect seeds; photograph successful arrangements
November	Transition to winter display; protect perennials; store empty containers

❄️ ■ WINTER GUIDE: Evergreen Elegance

December through February

Recommended Winter Plants & Materials

Plant/Material	Type	Care Level	Duration	Notes
Boxwood	Evergreen	Low	Permanent	Classic, formal look
Dwarf Alberta Spruce	Evergreen	Low	Permanent	Miniature tree shape
Winterberry Holly	Deciduous	Low	Season	Bright red berries
Hellebores	Perennial	Low	3-4 months	Blooms in cold
Cyclamen	Tender bulb	Moderate	2-3 months	Indoor/mild climates
Juniper	Evergreen	Low	Permanent	Blue-green foliage
Fresh Pine Boughs	Cut greens	None	4-6 weeks	Fragrant, festive
Magnolia Leaves	Cut greens	None	3-4 weeks	Glossy, elegant
Birch Branches	Decorative	None	Season	White bark texture
Pinecones	Decorative	None	Season	Natural accents

Winter Arrangement Tips

- Focus on texture and structure over flowers
- Add lights (battery-operated LED) for evening sparkle
- Use frost-proof containers or bring terra cotta indoors
- Refresh cut greens every 4-6 weeks for best appearance
- Add decorative elements: ribbon, ornaments, berries

Pro Tip: Spray cut evergreen boughs with anti-desiccant to prevent needle drop. Keep arrangements hydrated by misting regularly and placing ice cubes on soil.

Winter Maintenance Calendar

Week	Tasks
Early Dec	Create holiday display; add fresh greens and decorations; ensure drainage
Mid Dec	Mist evergreens; check for ice damage; add holiday lights safely
Late Dec	Monitor moisture levels; refresh browning greens; protect from heavy snow
January	Post-holiday refresh; remove decorations; add fresh greens if needed
Early Feb	Assess winter damage; plan spring display; order spring bulbs/plants
Late Feb	Begin transition prep; clean containers; start hardening off early plants

■ YEAR-ROUND MAINTENANCE CALENDAR

Month	Primary Tasks	Secondary Tasks
January	Monitor winter display; plan year ahead	Order seeds/plants; clean tools
February	Prep spring containers; prune evergreens	Start seeds indoors; inventory supplies
March	Transition to spring; plant cool-season	Fertilize; divide perennials
April	Peak spring care; deadhead; pest control	Plant summer bulbs; refresh mulch
May	Transition to summer; harden off plants	Increase watering; add supports
June	Summer display peak; water 2x daily	Monitor pests; liquid feed weekly
July	Heat stress management; mist foliage	Deadhead constantly; shade if needed
August	Refresh summer plants; plan fall	Reduce fertilizer; collect seeds
September	Transition to fall; plant mums/kale	Plant spring bulbs; clean containers
October	Peak fall display; frost protection	Prepare winter containers; store tools
November	Transition to winter; add greens	Protect perennials; final cleanup
December	Holiday display; monitor moisture	Plan next year; enjoy the season!

■ CONTAINER ARRANGEMENT TEMPLATES

The Thriller-Filler-Spiller Method

This classic formula creates balanced, professional-looking arrangements every time.

Element	Role	Position	Examples
THRILLER	Height, drama, focal point	Center or back	Grasses, dracaena, canna, tall mums
FILLER	Body, fullness, color mass	Middle area	Petunias, geraniums, begonias, impatiens
SPILLER	Softens edges, cascades	Container edges	Sweet potato vine, ivy, calibrachoa

Templates by Container Size

SMALL CONTAINER (8-10 inches)

	Spring	Summer	Fall	Winter
Thriller	1 tulip cluster	1 spike dracaena	1 ornamental grass	1 dwarf boxwood
Filler	3 pansies	3 petunias	2 small mums	Pine boughs
Spiller	Trailing ivy	Sweet potato vine	Trailing sedum	Ivy trails

MEDIUM CONTAINER (12-16 inches)

	Spring	Summer	Fall	Winter
Thriller	3 tulips + 2 daffodils	1 hibiscus or canna	1 tall mum + grass	1 Alberta spruce
Filler	5-7 pansies/violas	5 geraniums/petunias	3 mums + 2 kale	Mixed evergreen boughs
Spiller	Ivy + alyssum	Calibrachoa + vine	Ivy + sedum	Ivy + magnolia leaves

LARGE CONTAINER (18-24+ inches)

	Spring	Summer	Fall	Winter
Thriller	5-7 tulips in layers	Mandevilla on trellis	3 tall grasses	Spruce + birch branches
Filler	10+ mixed spring bulbs	7-9 mixed annuals	5 mums + 3 kale	Layered evergreens
Spiller	Ivy + vinca + alyssum	Multiple trailing varieties	Sedum + ivy + heuchera	Pine + magnolia + berries

■ QUICK REFERENCE CHARTS

Light Requirements Guide

Light Level	Hours of Direct Sun	Best Plants
Full Sun	6+ hours	Petunias, geraniums, lantana, zinnias, mums
Part Sun	4-6 hours	Begonias, impatiens, coleus, fuchsia
Part Shade	2-4 hours	Hostas, ferns, heuchera, caladium
Full Shade	<2 hours	Ferns, ivy, begonias (rex), cyclamen

Watering Guide

Category	Frequency	Signs of Need	Tips
Low	Every 5-7 days	Soil dry 2" deep	Succulents, ornamental grasses
Moderate	Every 3-4 days	Soil dry 1" deep	Most perennials, mums
Regular	Every 1-2 days	Soil barely moist	Annuals, tropicals
High	Daily or 2x daily	Never fully dry	Ferns, impatiens in heat

Color Palette Suggestions

Theme	Primary Colors	Accent Colors	Best Season
Classic Elegance	White, deep green	Silver, pale pink	All seasons
Cottage Garden	Pink, lavender, blue	White, soft yellow	Spring/Summer
Tropical Punch	Hot pink, orange, red	Lime green, yellow	Summer
Harvest Warmth	Orange, burgundy, gold	Purple, bronze	Fall
Winter Wonderland	Evergreen, white	Red, silver, gold	Winter

Modern Minimal	White, charcoal	Single bold accent	All seasons
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Essential Container Gardening Tips:

1. **Drainage is critical** - ensure all containers have drainage holes
2. **Use quality potting mix** - not garden soil, which compacts
3. **Feed regularly** - container plants deplete nutrients quickly
4. **Check daily in summer** - containers dry out faster than ground plantings
5. **Right plant, right place** - match light needs to your door's exposure
6. **Scale matters** - arrangements should be proportional to door/entry size
7. **Elevate containers** - pot feet improve drainage and protect surfaces