

Annuals & Perennials for Fall & Winter Colour

Fall is a wonderful time to enjoy the dramatic, lush colours of nature. Our GARDENWORKS experts have selected a few of their favourite annuals and perennials with outstanding autumn colour.

Anemone x hybrida **Japanese Anemone**

↑ 0.75-1.5m (2-5ft)

(Full sun to part shade, great cut flower, bloom colours in pink, red, white or burgundy)

An outstanding, low maintenance plant for the fall garden, it spreads to form a solid patch of delicate poppy-like flowers held high above the branching stems. Mulch extra well the first winter.

Fall Aster **Michaelmas Daisy**

↑ 0.5-1.5m (18"-5ft)

(Full sun, great cut flower, bloom colours in pink, white, mauve, blue, purple, or red)

Reliable, showy plants with a wide range of flower colours and plant heights from which to choose, asters prefer a rich moist soil. Pinching or pruning will encourage a more dense compact growth of these daisy-like flowers.

Brassica oleracea **Ornamental Kale & Cabbage**

↑ 50-75cm (18-24")

(Full sun, fall foliage colour in purple to blue-green)

This popular annual adds a gorgeous cool tone to your fall and winter garden. Plant with winter pansies for an outstanding effect. Great in the garden or in your favourite container, they may droop on very cold days but revitalize and look great all the way to March.

Calluna vulgaris **Scot's Heather**

↑ 2-100cm (2"-3ft)

(Full sun, bloom colours in white, purple, violet, crimson, bronze or pink. Fall foliage colour in green, chartreuse, russet, light-grey, lime, or apricot)

The crowded, tiny dark green leaves often change to stunning colours in the winter. They offer one-sided spikes of bell-shaped flowers in a stimulating range of colours with plenty of varieties from which to choose, we have listed just a few of the later-blooming varieties and their bloom colour. 'Goldsworth Crimson' crimson, 'Blazeaway' apricot-bronze, 'Corbett Red' violet-red, 'David Eason' red-purple, 'Darkness' dark purple, 'Alba Jae' white.

Chrysanthemum **"Mums"**

↑ 0.25-1.5m (9-48")

(Full sun, great cut flower, blooms in almost all colours)

No other plant comes close to the variety of colour and shapes that mums offer in the fall. Planting them in masses or in containers, they will surely cheer up your fall days, blooming until hard frost. They prefer a sunny location and an average to rich, well-drained soil.

Cortaderia selloana **Pampas Grass**

↑ 2-3m (8-11ft)

(Full sun, great cut flower. Blooms in white, silver or creamy-pink)

Very easy to grow on a well-drained site and probably the most popular ornamental grass, this grass forms a dense clump of sharp-edged, grey-green foliage and large fluffy flower heads—excellent for arranging. Dwarf varieties are also available.

Cyclamen hederifolium **Hardy Cyclamen**

↑ 5-10cm (4-6")

(Full sun to shade, blooms in pink or white)

Great for that dry shady area, the hardy cyclamen sports large marbled leaves all winter. Following a spring and summer dormancy, rocket-shaped flowers precede the late fall appearance of foliage.

Gentiana sino-ornata **Chinese Gentian**

↑ 5-10cm (6-8")

(Full sun to shade, blooms in blue)

Beginning in late summer and continuing until the first severe frost, this noteworthy plant bears 2-inch-long (5cm) flowers. One of the richest blues in the garden, they are occasionally striped with white.



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Helenium autumnale Sneezewort

↑ To 1.5m (4-5ft)

(Full sun, great cut flower. Blooms in yellow or orange)
Popular for its showy display of bright daisy-type flowers, sneezewort adds brilliant fall colour to the garden and makes a great back border plant. Pinch plants back in June to encourage bushiness.

Miscanthus Plume Grass

↑ 1-3m (3-8ft)

(Full sun to shade, great cut flower (plumes) reddish-pink, silver, cream, purple, bronze or white)

Large, bold grasses suited to massed plantings in a low-maintenance garden, miscanthus may be integrated into a perennial border. Flowering in fan-shaped panicles, it provides a showy border in the fall.

Phlox paniculata Garden Phlox

↑ 0.75-1.25m (2-4ft)

(Full sun to shade, great cut flower, blooms in blue, pink, purple, red, white or orange)

A rainbow of colours can be selected from this group of plants. The luxurious panicles of bright colours are spectacular in a perennial border. Plant in a well-ventilated area and watch for powdery mildew.

Polygonum amplexicaule Mountain Fleece

↑ .075-1.5m (2-5ft)

(Full sun, great cut flower, blooms in pink-red. Fall foliage in red)

This fleece flower has showy poker flowers and its leaves change to a wonderful red in the fall. A bushy, upright plant, it is ideal for massed landscape planting, and a good choice for difficult wet sites.

Rudbeckia fulgida Brown-eyed Susan

↑ 1-1.5m (3-5ft)

(Full sun, great cut flower. Blooms in rich yellow with brown centres)

With a seemingly endless bloom, it ranks among the top ten perennials of all time (in our books anyway). Easily grown in a sunny site, it looks astonishingly well with other large perennials.

Schizostylis coccinea African Lily

↑ 30-90cm (1-3ft)

(Full sun, great cut flower, blooms in pink, salmon or white)

Vigorous, grassy clumps of sword-shaped leaves grow all summer, and then in the fall, a display of large, starry flowers appear well above the foliage. Some describe this flower as the dainty version of the gladiola. Plant in a well-drained spot and mulch in the winter.

Sedum spectabile Stonecrop

↑ 50-75cm (18-24")

(Full sun, blooms in pink or red)

An easy plant to grow when planted in full sun, it will even thrive in a container. This fleshy, succulent plant produces clusters of starry flowers during September and October, and looks fabulous with blue fescue and other heat loving plants.

Viola wittrockiana Winter Pansy

↑ 10-20cm (6-8")

(Full to partial sun, blooms in all colours)

The most identifiable winter flowering plant, pansies provide months and months of interest and many colours from which to choose. These reliable annual plants provide a lot of cheer to the fall and winter garden. Plants will slow down during cold days.

