

Shade Gardening

Shady sites often contain more subtle colours and soft lighting, two characteristics that bring out feelings of serenity as well as solitude in the garden. In this handout, we will explore the many plant possibilities that you can combine in your shade garden. Bear in mind that not all of these plants withstand the same amount of shade. Some plants will not flower as well in shade as in partial sun e.g. *Stewartia*, *Hosta* and *Campanula*.

PERENNIALS

Adiantum pedatum (Maidenhair Fern)
Anemone blanda (Anemone)
Aquilegia x hybrida (Columbine)
Astilbe chinensis (Meadowsweet)
Bergenia spp. (Pigsqueek)
Caltha palustris (Marsh Marigold)
Campanula poscharskyana (Serbian Bellflower)
Cimicifuga racemosa (Black Snakeroot)
Convallaria majalis (Lily-of-the-Valley)
Cornus canadensis (Bunchberry)
Corydalis lutea (Fumitory)
Dicentra spp. (Bleeding Heart)
Doronicum cordatum (*Leopard's Bane*)
Epimedium spp. (Bishop's Hat)
Galanthus spp. (*Snowdrops*)
Galium odoratum (Sweet Woodruff)
Helleborus spp.
Hosta spp. (Plantain Lily)
Iris cristata (Crested Iris)
Osmunda regalis (Osmunda fern)
Pachysandra spp.
Phlox divaricata (Phlox)
Phlox stolonifera (Creeping Phlox)
Polemonium spp. (Jacob's Ladder)
Polygonatum odoratum (Solomon's Seal)
Primula spp.
Pulmonaria spp. (Lungwort)
Viola odorata (Sweet Violet)

ANNUALS

Begonia (tuberous and fibrous)
Calceolaria integrifolia (Slipper Flower)
Coleus hybridus (Coleus)
Fuchsia (Fuchsia)
Impatiens spp.
Mimulus spp. (Monkey Flower)
Myosotis spp. (Forget-me-not)
Senecio hybridus (Cineraria)

BIENNIALS

Digitalis spp. (Foxgloves)
Lunaria annua (Moneytree)

VARYING DEGREES OF SHADE

SUNNY SITE

Receives more than eight hours of direct sun each day, with most of that in the afternoon.

PARTIAL SHADE

Receives sunlight for less than eight hours, or sun under the dappled shade of trees.

SHADE

Receives no direct sunlight, but may get some reflected off buildings.

DEEP SHADE

Receives no direct or indirect sunlight e.g.: underneath an evergreen tree or large dense shrub.

SHRUBS

Amelanchier spp. (Chokecherry)
Azalea spp.
Berberis spp. (Barberry)
Callicarpa bodinieri (Beautyberry)
Calycanthus floridus (Carolina Allspice)
Chaenomeles japonica (Japanese Quince)
Corylopsis spp. (Winter Hazel)
Corylus avellana (European Filbert)
Cotoneaster horizontalis (Rock Cotoneaster)
Enkianthus campanulatus
Euonymus alata (Winged Euonymus)
Forsythia spp.
Hamamelis mollis (Chinese Witch Hazel)
Hamamelis x intermedia (Witch Hazel)
Hydrangea spp. (Hydrangeas and Hortensias)
Ilex verticillata (Holly)
Kerria japonica
Kolkwitzia amabilis (Beauty Bush)
Philadelphus coronarius (Mock Orange)
Rhododendron spp.
Sambucus canadensis (Elderberry)
Spirea x vanhouttei (Spirea)
Vaccinium corymbosum (Blueberry)
Viburnum spp.

VINES

Akebia quinata (Chocolate Vine)
Clematis armandii (Evergreen Clematis)
Clematis montana (Anemone Clematis)
Clematis x jackmanii (Jackman's Clematis)
Euonymus fortunei radicans (Winter Creeper)
Hydrangea anomala var. petiolaris (Climbing Hydrangea)
Lonicera sempervirens (Trumpet Honeysuckle Vine)
Parthenocissus quinquefolia (Virginia Creeper)
Parthenocissus tricuspidata (Boston Ivy)

EVERGREEN SHRUBS

Andromeda polifolia (Bog Rosemary)
Aucuba japonica (Aucuba)
Buxus sempervirens (Boxwood)
Camellia japonica (Japanese Camellia)
Camellia sasanqua (Fall Flowering Camellia)
Choisya ternata (Mexican Mock Orange)
Daphne odora (Winter Daphne)
Euonymus fortunei (Euonymus)
Fatsia japonica, *Fatsia*
Gaultheria shallon (Salal)
Ilex crenata (Japanese Holly)
Kalmia latifolia (Mountain Laurel)
Leucothoe fontanesiana (Drooping Leucothoe)
Mahonia aquifolium (Oregon Grape)
Nandina domestica (Heavenly Bamboo)
Pieris floribunda (Andromeda)
Sarcococca hookerana var. humilis (Sweet Box)
Skimmia japonica
Taxus baccata (Yew)

SMALL TREES

Acer japonicum (Fullmoon Maple)
Acer palmatum 'Dissectum' (Laceleaf Maple)
Acer negundo 'Flamingo' (Flamingo Box Elder)
Alnus spp. (Alder)
Cercis canadensis (Redbud)
Cornus florida (Flowering Dogwood)
Cornus kousa (Kousa Dogwood)
Cornus mas (Cornelian Cherry)
Magnolia x loebneri 'Leonard Messel'
Magnolia x soulangiana (Saucer Magnolia)
Oxydendrum arboreum (Sourwood)
Stewartia pseudocamellia (Japanese Stewartia)
Styrax japonica (Japanese Snowbell)



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