

Plant information

Herbs

Basil 'African Blue'

Prefers full sun with free-draining soil or compost. Good to grow in a pot, allow soil to dry between watering. Height and spread 75 x 35cm.

Pick leaves regularly throughout the summer and bring inside in autumn, before first frost, if you want to keep over winter. Remove flowers to encourage the growth of leaves or keep to encourage pollinating insects.



Mint - Moroccan

A fairly tolerant plant that can be grown in full sun or partial shade. Mints easily spread to take over the area so best grown in a large pot. Height and spread 60 x 45cm.

Use to make tea or to flavour potatoes or other cooking. Attracts bees and other wildlife. Will die back over winter and reshoot in spring. Easy to propagate from cuttings.



Common Thyme

Ideal for herb gardens, pots, paths, rockeries and raised beds or borders. Pick leaves to flavour cooking. Height and spread 30 x 35cm.

Think of the Mediterranean, position in a sunny spot and allow soil to dry between watering. Mixing gravel with soil/compost will aid drainage. Also enjoyed by bees and other wildlife. Should survive most winters.



Lavender 'Hidcote blue'

Although it can be used sparingly in cooking, lavenders are mainly grown for their scent and to attract wildlife.

Prefers full sun, or partial shade with free-draining soil or compost. Remains fairly compact, height and spread 45 x 20cm. Cut back flowers and trim foliage after flowering. Dried flowers can be brought indoors for their scent. Should survive over winter



Flowering plants (1)

Dahlia 'Moonfire'

Bronze foliage with golden yellow flowers running to red in the flower centers from mid-summer - autumn. Prefers a sunny position in a pot or border.

Height and spread 70 x 75cm and may require some support. Remove dead flowers to encourage more. Tubers may survive over winter or can be lifted and stored on soil in a garage or shed. Should start to grow again in April/May.



Penstemon 'Burgundy' - (top) 70 x 40cm

Penstemon digitalis 'Husker Red' - (bottom) 90 x 40cm

Flower most of the summer and autumn and loved by bees.

Plant in full sun or partial shade. May require some support - try making a square from short sticks or bamboo canes linked by string. Cut off dead flower heads. Hardy over winter, cut old stems down to new growth in early spring.



Salvia nemerosa 'Caradonna'

Can really stand out in a border and is another plant enjoyed by bees.

Plant in full sun or part shade, height x spread 50 x 35cm. Should survive over most winters, cut back old foliage in early spring to promote new growth.



Flowering plants (2)

Geranium 'Tiny Monster'

Flowering over much of the summer, this spreading plant is helpful for filling gaps or tumbling over pots.

Prefers full sun, or partial shade, height and spread 60 x 80cm.

Should be winter hardy.



Erigeron karvinskianus 'Sea of Blossom'

This is a hard-working plant with daisy-like flowers all summer.

Good for filling gaps at the front of borders or as part of display in a pot. Height and spread 25 x 30cm.

Should be winter hardy.



Grass

Carex elata 'Aurea'

A type of sedge with fountains of gold-coloured, fine foliage forming a large clump.

Prefers full sun. Good for pots or borders.

50 x 45cm.

Winter hardy, comb through with finger to pull out dead foliage.

