

Choosing the hydrangea best suited for your landscape.

Figuring out what conditions you have...

Light

Full Sun (6 or more hours)

Partial Sun (3-6 hours)

Shade (3 or less hours)

Soil

Heavy (ex. Clay)

Light (sandy, well-drained)

Moisture

Dry

Moist but well-drained

Wet (Marshy, Standing Water)

Exposure

Windy (out in the open)

Protected

Deer

(no hydrangeas are resistant but some are more susceptible to deer browsing than others)

Hydrangea Terms

Lacecap – a flat flower head with fertile florets in the center and sterile florets around the outside.



Mophead – large, round flower heads of sterile florets, resembling pom-poms.



Old-wood - describes growth that was put on during the previous season

New-wood - describes the growth that a plant creates during the current season

Cultivar – a variety of a plant that has been created or selected intentionally and maintained through cultivation

Deadheading – removing spent flower blossoms, in order to encourage new flower buds

Hydrangeas



A guide to selecting the best hydrangeas for your landscape.



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Mountain Hydrangea

Hydrangea serrata

One of the best hydrangeas for flowering in shade. Smaller, more compact and spreading hydrangea with lace-cap flowers, varying in color, depending on soil pH. Excellent merlot fall color.

3'-4' Tall and Wide

Growth Requirements

- * Moist soil, with high organic matter
- * Part Shade to Full Shade (cannot take Sun)
- * Sheltered area is necessary

Pruning

(Same as Big Leaf Hydrangea *Hydrangea macrophylla*)

'Annabelle' Smooth Hydrangea

Hydrangea arborescens

A native hydrangea with large, mop head type flowers, starting off lime green then maturing to creamy white. With frequent deadheading will continue to bloom all summer. An extremely adaptable hydrangea.

3' to 5' tall and wide.

Growth Requirements

- * Well-drained, rich, moist soil
- * Sun – Full Shade (moisture is a requirement in full sun)

Pruning

- * This hydrangea blooms on both new and old wood, therefore can be pruned fall or spring. May be cut back to the ground to rejuvenate.



Hydrangea Varieties

Big Leaf Hydrangea

Hydrangea macrophylla

The most popular and recognized hydrangea. Known for its showy mop-head or lace-cap flowers. Flowers may vary in form and color depending on cultivar and soil pH. Mature size will also depend on cultivar.

Growth Requirements

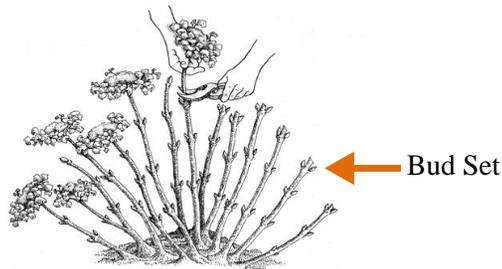
- * Well-drained, rich, moist soil
- * Sun – Part Shade (consistent moisture is a requirement for full sun)
- * Severe winters may damage flower buds, heavy mulching in late fall may help prevent any bud loss. Planting in a sheltered area would be beneficial as well.

* Flower color may be altered by changing your soil pH. **Acidic soils** will generate **blue flowers**, where as **alkaline soils** will generate **pink flowers**. Products are available to help you adjust your pH.

Pruning

- * This hydrangea primarily flowers on old wood (although newer varieties flower on both new and old), therefore time of pruning is important to ensure flowering.
- * This hydrangea does not require pruning but when trying to reduce the overall size, pruning should be done late summer – early fall (may still be flowering).

* To ensure that you have some flower buds for the following year, **do not cut down any farther than 4 bud sets from the base of each shoot.**



Panicle Hydrangea

Hydrangea paniculata

An old-fashion hydrangea, with large, showy, cone-shaped flowers mid to late summer. Flowers begin light green, turning cream, and then gradually maturing to pink. Mature size will depend on cultivar. Although this plant is not deer resistant it tends to be a moderate browse risk.

Growth Requirements

- * Well-drained, rich soil, but can tolerate poor, dry sites.
- * Sun – Part Sun

Pruning

- * This hydrangea blooms on both new and old wood, therefore can be pruned fall or spring. May be cut back to the ground to rejuvenate.

Oakleaf Hydrangea

Hydrangea quercifolia

As the name implies this hydrangea has beautiful 'oak leaf' shaped leaves that turn brilliant burgundy during the fall months. Large, creamy white-pink, cone-shaped flowers appear mid-summer. Mature size depends on cultivar.

Growth Requirements

- * Well-drained, moist, rich soil.
- * Part shade – full shade
- * Severe winters may damage flower buds, heavy mulching in late fall may help prevent any bud loss. Planting in a sheltered area would be beneficial as well.

Pruning

- * This hydrangea flowers on old wood therefore timing of pruning is important to ensure flowering.
- * This hydrangea does not require pruning but when trying to reduce the overall size, pruning should be done late summer – early fall (may still be flowering).

****Definitions of hydrangea terms on back**