



PRUNING YOUR PERENNIALS

Early season pruning: Shape or shear plants in early spring to about 6". Remove any winter damaged foliage and avoid cutting into old wood. For early bloomers, shear back by ½ and shape after all flowering is complete. Do not prune after August.

Cerastium	Snow in Summer	Origanum	Ornamental Oregano
Dianthus	Pinks	Salvia officinalis	Garden Sage
Helianthemum	Sunrose	Teucrium	Germander
Iberis	Candytuft	Thymus	Thyme
Lavendula	Lavender		

Deadhead to encourage rebloom: Deadhead to a lateral bud. When lateral buds finish flowering, cut back to basal foliage. Let basal foliage remain through the winter. Remove winter damaged foliage in spring.

Achillea	Yarrow	Hemerocallis	Daylily
Astrantia	Masterwort	Lythrum	Purple Loosestrife
Campanula	Bellflower	Penstemon	Penstemon
Catananche	Cupids Dart	Phlox	Garden Phlox
Chrysanthemum	Shasta Daisy	Salvia	Perennial Salvia
Digitalis	Foxglove	Stokesia	Stokes Aster
Echinacea	Purple Coneflower	Veronica	Speedwell
Echinops	Globe Thistle		
Erigeron	Fleabane		

Control size and shape after bloom: Snip off old flowering stems to improve the appearance. You can also shear back by 2/3 after flowering, or shape as desired. This often encourages fresh new growth that remains tidy for the remainder of the season.

Amsonia	Bluestar	Willow Amsonia	Geranium	Perennial Geranium
Baptisia		Blue False Indigo	Lysimachia punctata	Yellow Loosestrife
Euphorbia		Cushion Spurge	Nepeta	Catmint

Prune to stagger bloom or control height: Plants respond well to early season pruning which can produce shorter plants with smaller flowers. Delayed flowering will also occur. Plants in different areas can be pruned for delayed peak bloom.

Anthemis	Golden Marguerite	Chelone	Turtlehead
Artemisia	Silver King Artemesia	Echinacea	Purple Coneflower
Aster	Aster	Eupatorium	Joe Pye Weed
Boltonia	Bolton's Aster	Helianthus	False Sunflower
Chrysanthemum	Garden Mum	Helenium	Helen's Flower
		Monarda	Beebalm

Seeding for longevity: Allow some plants to go to seed to ensure constancy in the garden, but not so that they become invasive. If allowed to set seed, the parent plant may die, or the foliage may decline. If plant is cut back to basal foliage before seed formation, it is more likely to act as a perennial.

Alcea	Hollyhock	Lychnis	Rose Campion
Aquilegia	Columbine	Knautia	Knautia
Gaillardia	Blanket Flower	Malva alcea	Hollyhock Mallow
Digitalis purpurea	Foxglove	Mertensia	Virginia Bluebells
Foeniculum	Fennel	Verbascum	Mullein
Hesperis	Dames Rocket		
Linum perenne	Perennial Flax		
Lunaria	Money Plant		

Ornamental pods & seeds: Deadhead to control seeding if desired. Seedheads can be left for winter interest. Plant can be cut back in fall or spring.

Agastache	Hyssop	Filipendula	Meadowsweet
Allium senescens	Ornamental Onion	Hibiscus	Rose Mallow
Asclepias	Marsh Milkweed or Butterfly Flower	Liatris	Gayfeather
Astilbe	Astilbe	Miscanthus	Maiden Grass
Belamcanda	Blackberry Lily	Panicum	Switchgrass
Chelone	Turtlehead	Pennisetum	Fountain Grass
Echinacea	Purple Coneflower	Rudbeckia	Black-eyed Susan
Eupatorium	Joe Pye Weed	Sedum	Sedum Autumn Joy
		Solidago	Goldenrod

Refresh for fall: Foliage may decline in late summer. Shear the entire plant to the ground and water. Fresh growth will appear and remain to frost. Instead of shearing, damaged leaves can be removed by hand.

Alchemilla	Lady's Mantle	Coreopsis	Coreopsis
Aquilegia	Columbine	Galium	Sweet Woodruff
Artemisia	Silver Mound Artemesia	Hemerocallis	Daylily
Bupthalmum	Willowleaf Oxeye	Heuchera	Coral Bells
Briza media	Quaking Grass	Monarda	Beebalm
Brunnera	Heartleaf Brunnera	Pulmonaria	Lungwort
Campanula	Bellflower	Perovskia	Russian Sage
Chrysanthemum	Shasta Daisy	Tradescantia	Spiderwort

Semi-woody: Deadhead to lateral buds to prolong bloom. Let branch structure remain for winter interest. In late spring cut back to a smaller framework of branches to about 8-10 inches, a bit shorter for Russian Sage

Buddleia	Butterfly Bush
Caryopteris	Bluebeard
Perovskia	Russian Sage
Vitex	Chaste-tree

Remove foliage for winter: Deadhead to enhance the appearance of the plant. Remove all foliage after hard frost and do not compost.

Anemone	Japanese Anemone, Grapeleaf Anemone
Aquilegia	Columbine
Iris	Bearded Iris, Dwarf Iris
Paeonia	Garden Peony
Phlox paniculata	Garden Phlox