

- \* *Top tips for spring gardening*
- \* *Best bedding plants for spring*
- \* *Spring lawn care*  
*& so much more...*

**SAGA**  
magazine  
— guides

# gardening

*through spring*

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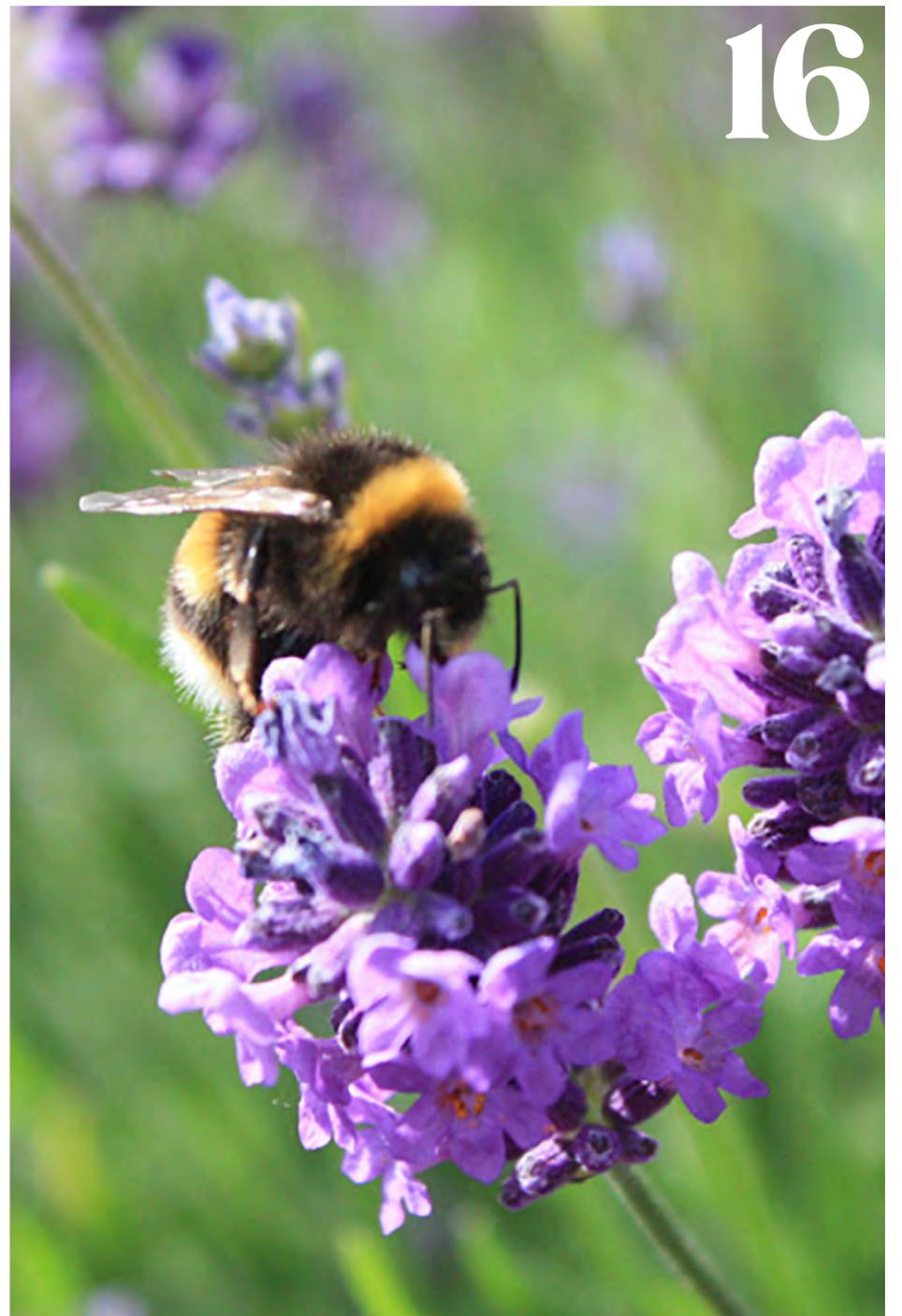
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# Spring gardening

with Dobbies Garden Centres

**S**pring brings renewed energy to gardens, making it the ideal time to roll up your sleeves and get outdoors. In fact, according to Dobbies Garden Centres, it's the most important time of year to lay the groundwork for a successful growing season.

Throughout this exclusive guide in partnership with Saga Magazine, Dobbies' Plant Buyer Nigel Lawton shares expert seasonal advice to help you refresh your outdoor space for the months ahead. From reviving your lawn and selecting bedding plants for instant colour to planting perennials and general garden maintenance, these easy-to-follow guides will help you stay one step ahead.

With trusted tips, inspiration, and quality new products from Dobbies, you'll have everything you need to make the most of your garden. Discover more at [dobbies.com](https://dobbies.com). 🌱

Dobbies' Plant Buyer Nigel Lawton  
(© Dobbies Garden Centres)

# The no-fuss kitchen garden

Ten steps to successful veg



**1** Be realistic about how much time you have. If you can spare only a few minutes a week, there's no point in committing yourself to an allotment. Time-strapped gardeners are better off growing veg in pots or in a small plot in the back garden. ➔

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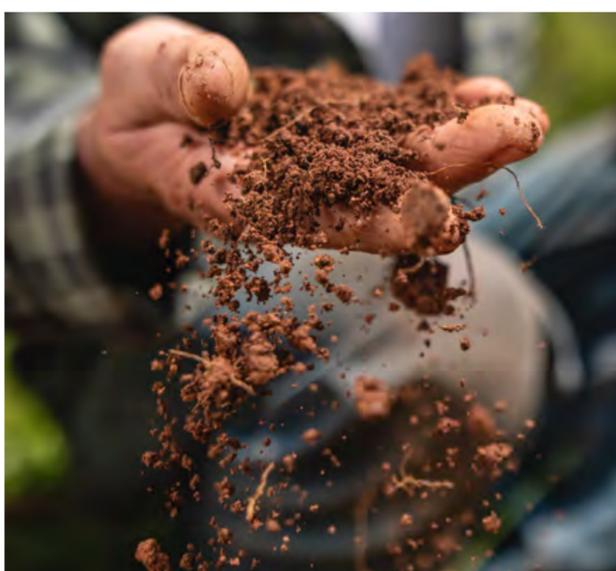
**5** Don't go mad and order far too many seedlings or plants, only to discover that you don't have time to care for them all. Stick to those edibles that you like to eat, ones that are expensive to buy, or those that are not readily available, such as kale and Swiss chard.



**2** Reduce your workload by dividing large areas up with paths and raised beds. Apart from making the space more manageable, it means there will be less weeding to do.

**3** Most gardeners traditionally dig soil to prepare it for planting in the autumn, but you could try 'no-dig' gardening instead. Start by removing weeds from the ground then cover the plot with a thick layer of leaf mould, garden compost or well-rotted manure. Young plants can be planted directly into this in the spring. It will need to be topped up with organic material each autumn.

**4** Edibles mostly do best in a sunny, sheltered position, – the combination of heat and light will encourage them to grow and ripen to perfection. But there are many varieties of vegetables that don't need to have such perfect conditions, which you can try if your own patch is not quite up to scratch.



**6** Look out for varieties that have 'F1 hybrid' printed on their packets – these have been bred to ensure uniformity, health, vigour and high yields. Similarly, those marked with a trophy have been given the Award of Garden Merit by the Royal Horticultural Society (RHS), meaning that they are straightforward to grow. ➔

**7** Some vegetables are more prone to problems than others. You can reduce the time you spend troubleshooting by growing crops that are naturally resistant or have been bred to be more tolerant of pests and diseases.



**8** Tomatoes, peppers and courgettes all germinate easily, so if you do decide to grow from seed, there's no need to sow the entire packet. Plant only a few more seeds than you need and save the rest for next year in an airtight box in a cool, dark place.

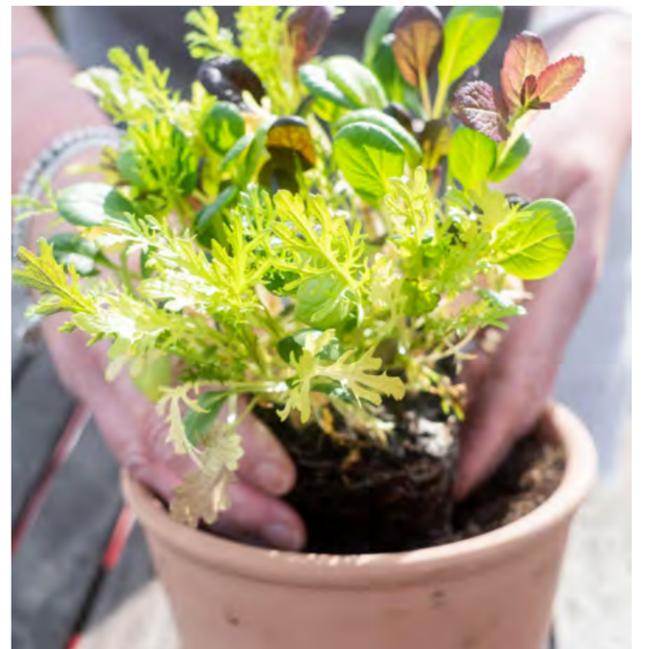


**9** A crop rotation plan will prevent the build-up of both pests and diseases in the soil. Divide edibles into three groups (roots and salads, brassicas, beans and fruiting vegetables) and then grow these in a different bed or area each year. In year three, plants will be back in their original position.



**TIME-SAVING TIP**

When growing crops in pots, add water-retaining granules to compost to reduce watering.



**10** Edibles in pots are much more vulnerable to drying out than those grown in the ground, so require frequent watering. You could consider replacing watering cans or hoses with a drip irrigation system that has a programmable timer to ensure your plants are kept moist (see page 13). ☘

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# Spring gardening tips

with Dobbies Garden Centres

Refresh your garden for the new season

**S**pring is the perfect fresh start for your garden, with plenty to do to ensure a thriving outdoor space for the year ahead. Dobbies' Plant Buyer Nigel Lawton shares the essential steps to help your outdoor space come to life as the new season officially begins.

## Prep and prune

Before your garden bursts into life, Nigel suggests a quick audit of your borders. Clear away any remaining winter debris and lightly cultivate the soil to improve ➔

← its structure. This is also when you should prune summer-flowering shrubs and late-flowering climbers to encourage fresh growth, ensuring your garden remains healthy and full of flowers once the warmer weather arrives.

## Support wildlife

Nigel notes that spring is a great time to do your part for local biodiversity. He recommends providing a consistent water source, such as a bird bath, for birds and emerging insects. You can also give birds a helping hand during nesting season by hanging high-energy bird feed or seeds. Creating a wildlife-friendly environment now will ensure your garden



is a vibrant, living space all year round.

## Collect water

Sustainability is a key focus for the season ahead, and spring is the perfect time to think about how you manage water in the garden. Nigel says that collecting rainwater is a simple yet effective way to be more eco-friendly. Installing a water butt will allow you to take advantage of spring showers, providing a natural and sustainable

supply for your plants as the temperatures rise. Rainwater is also better for your plants than tap water, and having a stored supply makes garden maintenance much easier during the drier summer months. ☼

Whether you're a first-time gardener or a seasoned pro, Dobbies is here to help your garden thrive. For everything you need to make the most of your garden this spring, visit [dobbies.com](https://www.dobbies.com).

# 10 easiest veg to grow

Ideal edibles for beginners

## Mixed salad leaves

Formula 1 racing champions of the veg world, these will be ready to pick within three weeks of sowing.



## Rocket

These peppery leaves are ready just a few weeks after sowing. All you need to do is water and pick regularly.



## Potato 'Sarlo Mira'

Large, tasty, floury maincrop tubers on a high-yielding plant that's resistant to both blight and attack by slugs.



## Courgette 'Defender'

A downy-mildew-resistant variety that's renowned for heavy crops of uniform dark green fruit.



## Tomato 'Tumbler'

Produces masses of cherry-sized fruit on trailing stems, without the need for removing fiddly side-shoots. Perfect for hanging baskets and pots. ➔



☛ **Radish 'Sparkler'**

A globe-shaped, red-and-white skinned radish that can be eaten three weeks after sowing.



**Carrot 'Flyaway'**

A tasty early variety resistant to attack by carrot fly, a pest whose eggs hatch into root-boring maggots.

**Beetroot 'Boltardy'**

Produces tender round roots with leaves that can be used like spinach and in salads. This variety copes with dry conditions and is resistant to bolting.



**French bean 'Purple Teepee'**

A dwarf variety that will provide a prolific crop for a fraction of the effort. Grows well in pots too.



**Spring onion 'Feast'**

Slender white stems that are resistant to fungal disease. Expect to lift six weeks after sowing. ☘

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# Beat the weeds

Keep the blighters under control – and make them easier to remove



**M**ost gardeners have a zero tolerance policy with weeds. Spot a bright yellow dandelion in the flower bed and we're tugging the gatecrasher from the ground.

It might be difficult, but try to take a more relaxed attitude to gardening. After all, there

are many weeds that add colour to the garden, such as the pretty pink Herb robert, while white clover attracts bees.

Whatever you do, you'll never be able to stop weeds from popping up completely, but there are ways to make it harder for them to grow and to make weeding easier. ➔



## ← Gravel garden

Pockets of land within the garden can be covered with shingle, pebbles or gravel to make an attractive, low-maintenance alternative to a traditional bed or border. Start by covering the designated area with landscape fabric to prevent the stones or gravel from being trodden into the soil. Peg down the fabric securely at the sides to keep it in place and prevent weeds from popping up. Spread your chosen stones over the top and rake level. If you want to add some plants, scrape back the stones, and cut crosses in the fabric large enough to accommodate the rootball.

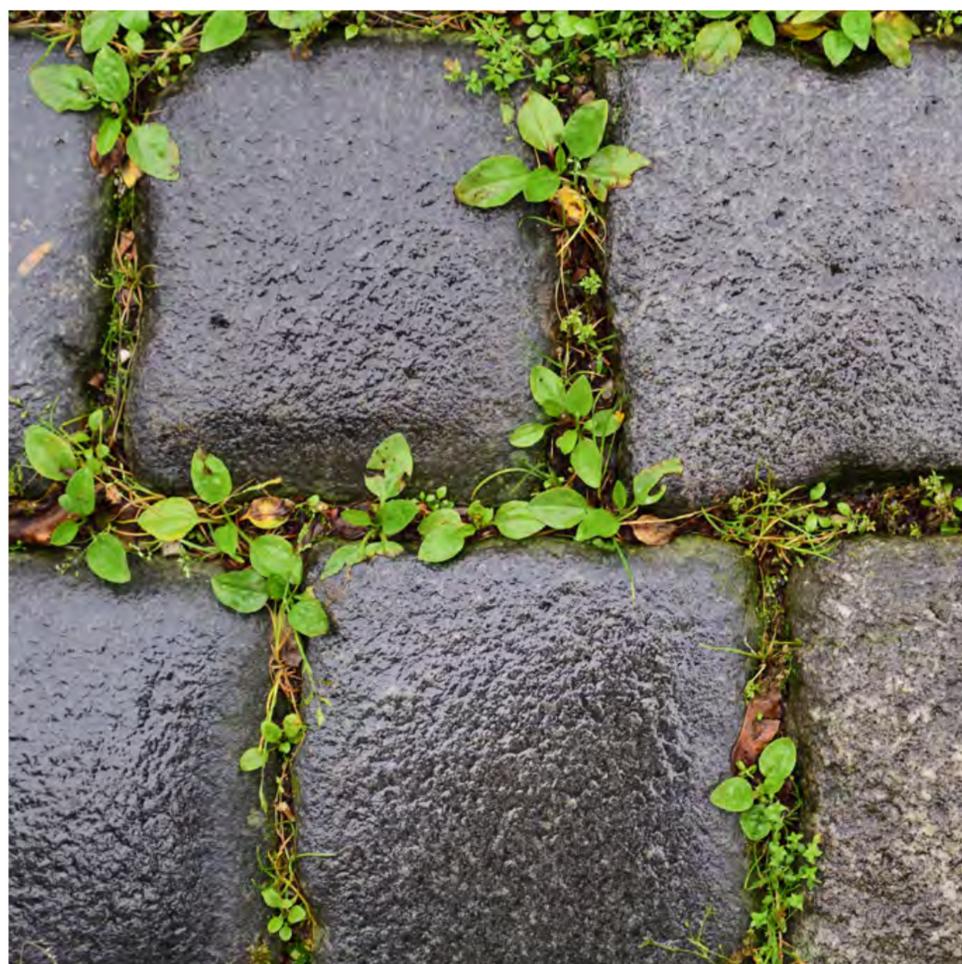


### TIME-SAVING TIP

Moss, algae and weeds can sometimes overrun pots and rob moisture from the roots of plants. Pull them out by hand, then top up the pot with fresh compost. Follow with an ornamental mulch of pebbles, shells or glass chippings to help prevent the weeds from returning.

## Cover bare patches

Large areas of bare soil, such as an unused vegetable patch that has been put to bed for the winter, will soon sprout weeds. Seeds lying close to the surface will germinate quickly in mild spells to colonise the bed of soil. Some vigorous hoeing is usually required to remove them, but you can make life easier for yourself by covering the whole area with plastic sheeting, landscape fabric, cardboard or even old carpet until you're ready to start growing.



## Weeds in paths

Gaps between paths, patios and other areas of hard landscaping provide the perfect environment for weeds and moss to flourish. Some gardeners like to get down on their hands and knees to lever them out with a knife or scratch away at crevices with a special long-handled tool fitted with a head of wire bristles. The angled wire bristles are perfect for scrubbing mosses, weed and debris from cracks and paving joints. Both of these methods work, although they need a lot of elbow grease. It is not advisable to use weed-killers unless absolutely necessary. →



## ☛ Weeds in the lawn

Most lawns are affected by moss and weeds at some point. So give yours some attention early in the year. Spike and rake annually to improve drainage and remove debris. Coarse grasses can be controlled by slashing the crowns with a knife before mowing, while weeds that spread by runners can be weakened by raking the stems upright before cutting. If you have a serious weed problem, use a weed and feed product, ensuring the formulation is for the right time of year. These are usually intended for spring or autumn application.

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**‘Pockets of land within the garden can be covered with shingle, pebbles or gravel for an attractive, low-maintenance area’**

## Benefits of mulch

Covering the surface of beds and borders with a thick layer of garden compost, leaf mould or composted bark is a great way to prevent weed seeds from germinating. It has other benefits, too: it locks in moisture, keeps the roots of plants cool in summer and insulates them in winter, and helps to improve soil structure as the material decays. Ideally, mulches need spreading in autumn or spring, while the soil is damp. If it's not, soak the ground first as it's difficult to wet dry soil through a mulch. Make sure the site is clear of weeds. Apply a 5-7.5cm (2-3in) layer of material, taking care not to smother low-growing plants or to pile it up against the stems of shrubs or trees – aim to leave a 30cm (12in) diameter gap around these plants; mulches in contact with woody stems can cause bark to soften, making plants vulnerable to infection by fungal diseases. ☘

# The low-maintenance flower border



No, it's not a pipe dream – you really can have one. Here's how to do it...

**E**veryone loves a traditional herbaceous border, but these flower-filled spaces need a lot of time and effort. If you're starting from scratch, it is possible to have a border that not only looks good but is easy to look after, too.

## Getting started

Prior to planting, it's essential to spend a little time preparing the ground. After marking it out, dig the soil over (sorry, some work is necessary at this point) and improve with garden compost. Remove any perennial weeds to ensure you don't have problems later.

## Easy-care plants

When selecting plants for a new border, choose a mixture of perennials, grasses and shrubs that will provide year-round interest ([see page 22](#)).

Many perennials require ➔

⬅️ staking, dead-heading, chopping back and dividing regularly, so try to avoid those. Evergreen shrubs tend to need less work than deciduous plants, but you will need both to provide a long season of interest. Take note of what the neighbours are growing: if you spot particular plants in several gardens it's probably because they're happy in your area. Space plants correctly to avoid cutting back too soon.

### Ground cover

Fill the gaps with ground-cover plants. Apart from adding colour or interest at ground level, they will leave less space for weeds or self-seeded perennials to muscle in. Among the best low-growing plants are *Ajuga* (bugle), *Cornus canadensis* (creeping



dogwood) and *Epimedium*. Avoid invasive ground-cover plants that might become rampant, such as ivies, *Hypericum calycinum* and *Vinca major* (periwinkle).

### Plant some bulbs

Once your main plants are in place, you can underplant with bulbs to provide a splash of seasonal colour. If you decide to plant tender species, such as dahlias, cannas and pineapple lilies, be prepared to lift them at the end of the season before the frosts come.

### Don't forget to mulch

Ground-covering plants will take a while to get going, so mulch around them annually until they cover the ground, to prevent weed seeds from

germinating. Some mulches are ornamental – bark chippings, cocoa shell mulch (poisonous to dogs) and mineralised straw – and set plants off beautifully, while others, like leaf mould, garden compost and composted bark, are utilitarian. (see page 13).

### Watering advice

Plants will need to be kept well watered until they are established. You can make life easier by setting up an automatic watering system. An effective way is to snake a porous pipe through the bed – water seeps out of small holes in the pipe straight to the roots. This can be fitted to an outdoor tap with a programmable timer that will ensure the water is applied at a set hour and length of time. ☘️



### TIME-SAVING TIP

Avoid the need for staking by cutting back late-flowering perennials by a third in late May – a technique known as the 'Chelsea chop'. Sedum, helenium, rudbeckia, solidago and monarda are perennials that respond well to this treatment.

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# The best perennials to plant in spring

## with Dobbies Garden Centres

Treat your garden to plants  
that will flower year after year

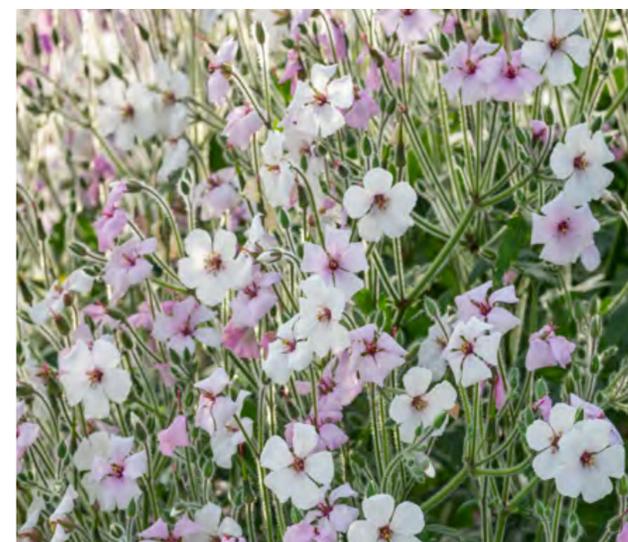
**I**n this look at spring gardening with Dobbies Garden Centres, Plant Buyer Nigel Lawton explains how to give your garden a boost with perennials. Spring is the ideal moment to get these plants in the ground, allowing them to establish so they return bigger and better every year.

### **The beauty of longevity**

Unlike annuals, which only last for a single season, perennials are plants that flower year after year. Nigel notes that the beauty of perennials is their reliability – once established, many varieties offer foliage that provide structure and colour even when not in full bloom. By planting now, you'll give them a full season to establish a strong root system before the peak of summer. ➔



GAP PHOTOS



and wildlife. If your goal is to support biodiversity, English lavender is one of the most efficient plants for attracting bees and will add a beautiful touch to your garden with its rich fragrant, purple flowers. Similarly, scabious and penstemons are popular resting spots for pollinators and will add a soft, cottage-garden feel to any space.

### **Planting for success**

When planting perennials, Nigel recommends checking the plant label for spacing, and giving them enough room to grow into their permanent home. Prepare the soil by weeding and cultivating to the depth of a spade, and also consider adding a layer of mulch to help retain moisture. ☼

Whether you're planning a sprawling border or compact display, perennials are a smart investment for a garden that improves every year. Explore the full range of hardy plants at [dobbies.com](https://www.dobbies.com)

### **← Planting for impact**

For gardeners looking to create a summer showcase that lasts, Nigel recommends a combination of sizes and textures. Delphiniums and lupins are fantastic for adding height and dramatic interest to the back of a border. For the middle of flower beds, geums offer vibrant colours and bright semi-evergreen foliage that will provide interest throughout the summer months. If you're looking for something hardy, geraniums are a tough, easy-to-grow choice that will provide flowers for months with minimal care required.

### **Scent and pollinators**

Nigel says that spring is the time to plant for fragrance





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# Spring lawn care

## with Dobbies Garden Centres

Now is the time to focus on your lawn

**A**s the weather warms up, your lawn is ready to transition into its active growing phase. According to Dobbies' Plant Buyer Nigel Lawton, spring is the time to focus on setting your lawn up for healthy growth throughout the rest of the year.

### Timing is key

While you'll be eager to get started, Nigel explains that temperature is the deciding factor as grass won't start growing until conditions are right. Nigel recommends waiting until temperatures are consistently above 5-7 degrees before carrying out major lawn tasks. This is typically towards the end of March, though it can vary depending on where you live.

### Repair and prepare

For those planning to sow a new lawn or repair bare →

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or aerating the lawn can help water and nutrients reach the roots more effectively, encouraging stronger growth. Applying a lawn builder or grass feed at this stage will support a lush, greener lawn as the season progresses.

### **The first mow**

When it comes to giving your grass its first cut of the year, Nigel advises patience. There's no fixed date, and mowing should only take place once the grass is actively growing and all risk of frost has passed. Your first cut should always be light, with mower blades set to their highest setting, and carried out on a dry day to avoid damaging the lawn. ☘

Follow these steps to lay the foundations for a summer-ready lawn, perfect for garden living. Find more tips and lawn care advice at [dobbies.com](https://dobbies.com).

☘ patches, early spring is a good opportunity once conditions allow. Preparing the ground properly is essential; start by clearing debris and cultivating the soil before levelling and firming the surface.

Gardeners can now pick up grass seed at Dobbies

designed to germinate at lower temperatures, making it a practical option for earlier sowing.

### **Boost root health**

Nigel notes that spring is a good time to improve lawn health by addressing drainage and soil compaction. Spiking



ALAMY

# How to transform an existing border

Ten ways to cut labour in flower beds

**1** Consider evicting plants that require constant dead-heading, pruning or are martyrs to pests and diseases. Replace with perennials, grasses or shrubs that are drought tolerant, naturally slow-growing or keep their shape without the need for trimming.

**2** Add a brick, bark or gravel path. As well as looking attractive, a path will reduce the amount of growing space you need to look after and make access to the bed easier for maintenance work.

**3** Make sure you eliminate any pernicious perennial weeds, such as nettles, bindweed and ground elder by digging them out as soon as they appear. Make sure you dig out all the roots. You can also weaken them by cutting back regularly.

**4** Don't feel obliged to fill every gap in a border with plants. A sculpture, urn or similar ornament will provide interest and require no maintenance (see page 20). ➔





**5** Use a hoe to despatch annual weeds from the surface of borders in spring, then cover with a 7.5cm (3in) mulch of garden compost, composted bark or similar material. This should prevent weed seeds from germinating and lock in moisture to make watering easier ([see page 11](#)).

**6** Freshen up a corner or edge of a border by turning it into a gravel garden. Remove existing plants, add weed-suppressing matting, then slice through it to plant drought-tolerant species. Cover matting with gravel, pebbles and other stones in different grades.

**7** There's no need to cut back all perennials at once in the autumn or late winter. Cut back only as plants start to look bedraggled. Spreading pruning work out over a few months will make it less of a chore.

**8** Add brick, timber or similar types of decorative edges to borders (mowing strips). They will prevent plants from escaping and make mowing easier when the lawn nestles up to your plant displays.

**9** Give your plants a kick-start in spring by scattering controlled-release fertiliser around them. The greedy ones will need another feed in summer. It will make strong, healthy plants, which are more likely to shrug off any problems.

**10** Take a more relaxed approach to maintenance of plants and the look of the border. Learn to live with the odd weed, self-seeded perennial and dying flower, which attract wildlife – finches love aster seeds, for example. Most shrubs will thrive without being pruned annually; they'll just grow taller. ☼

# Best easy-care plants

Start as you mean to go on by choosing plants that don't need much looking after



**Nurseries and garden centres** are full of tempting plants, so you need to exercise caution when choosing specimens for a low-maintenance garden. Many roses, climbers, shrubs and perennials need dead-heading, tying up, pruning, feeding and numerous other jobs to ensure they thrive. Don't avoid these plants entirely, but try to choose those that will turn heads with the minimal amount of work.

**Drought-tolerant plants** will look after themselves once established, so you don't need to worry about watering them regularly. There are countless shrubs, perennials and grasses that can cope with arid conditions. As a general rule, plants with grey or silver foliage tend to be drought resistant, along with those native to the Mediterranean and South Africa.

**All perennials need maintenance** but some are less demanding than others. Use those that don't require staking ([see page 14](#)) or that spread slowly, so they don't

require dividing for five years or so. Always follow the maxim 'right plant, right place' to ensure they romp away. A sun-loving perennial planted in shade will simply sulk and need constant attention.

**Make shrubs the backbone** of your garden. Compact and slow-growing evergreens, plus those that retain a neat shape, will give structure, seasonal flowers and look good all year round. Deciduous shrubs tend to require more formative pruning. Exceptions include Japanese maples, or acers, *Cotoneaster horizontalis*, Spiraea and Cotinus (smoke bush).

**Grasses are real workhorses** in a low-maintenance garden, adding colour, movement and long-lasting interest with their flowers and seed heads. They provide all of this with very little care. All you have to do is comb through evergreen ones to remove debris, and chop back deciduous grasses in early spring to give room for fresh growth. ☼

# As far as the eye can see...

Views and decorative features in the garden need little or no care

**T**he elements within your garden – and in some cases beyond its boundaries – can play a large part in the way you use your space and its overall look. Unlike plants, these features need relatively little care (if any at all) to make a really big impact, so it's worth incorporating them into your garden design.

Arches, arbours, benches, pergolas and similar structures are decorative features with many uses. Arches can be made to create an entrance, while a pergola will draw the eye into the garden. Arbours make great focal points and can be a place to put your feet up. Grow low-maintenance climbers over them, such as different varieties of honeysuckle, for example.

If you have a great view it pays to make the most of it, whether the focal point is a church, field, river or simply a nearby tree. Rather than block the view out with a solid wall, fence or hedge, you can almost 'capture' it like a picture so it becomes a feature.

Portholes or windows – French *clairvoyees* – can be cut into hedges and you can buy frames to help you do this easily; or an ornamental ironwork window can be built into a wall. In a larger garden, a circular moon gate is effective for framing a view.

Including ornaments is a great way to add finishing touches to a garden. Tasteful figurines or a sculpture provide perfect focal points, or they can be more subtly placed among plants within a bed or border. ☼

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# Beds and borders plant guide

with Dobbies Garden Centres

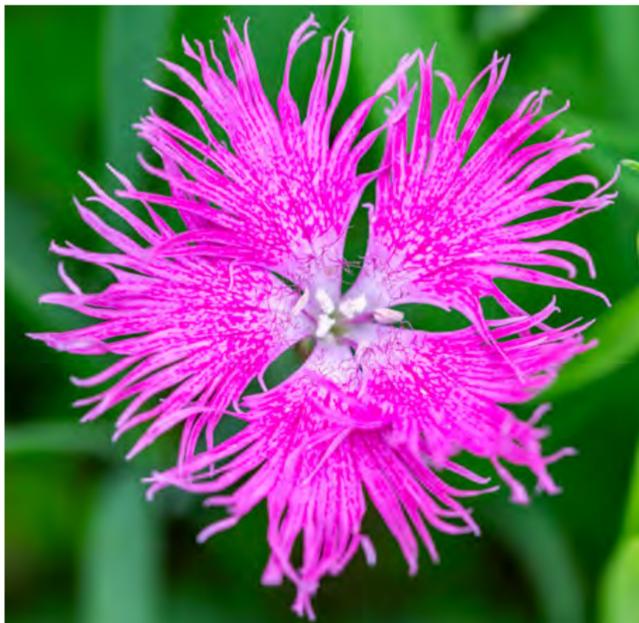


Refresh pots, baskets  
and window boxes

**B**edding plants are a simple and effective way to bring instant seasonal colour to your garden at any time of the year. According to Dobbies' Plant Buyer Nigel Lawton, now is the ideal time to refresh tired pots, hanging baskets, and window boxes, giving them a new lease of life for the months ahead.

### Instant impact

For a quick burst of energy and colour, Nigel recommends →



GAP PHOTOS



## Resilience and variety

If you are working with rockeries or smaller containers, alpine plants offer a beautiful and hardy solution. Varieties like aubretia and saxifrage provide both delicate colour and incredible resilience in cooler conditions. For an extra layer of interest, Nigel suggests incorporating edible herbs, such as rosemary, sage or thyme. These are perfect for adding fragrance and texture to your containers, and are at hand when needed in the kitchen.

## Personalise your space

Spring is also an opportunity to add personality to your outdoor space. Beyond the plants themselves, Nigel encourages gardeners to have fun with their arrangements. By choosing colourful pots and even incorporating decorative accessories like topiary characters or ornaments, your containers can feel like a true extension of your home. ☼

Whether you're updating a large patio or a small doorstep, Dobbies offers a wide range of bedding plants, alpines and accessories to help you create a vibrant display from the very start of the season. Discover more inspiration at [dobbies.com](https://www.dobbies.com).



☛ a mix of reliable spring favourites, such as pansies and violas. These plants are resilient enough to handle the tail end of the cooler weather while keeping your garden looking vibrant. For those wanting to add more structure and longevity to their displays, plants such as dianthus and senetti are excellent choices that will carry your garden right through spring and into early summer.

# Ten easiest grasses to grow

Perfect varieties for pots and borders

## *Hakonechloa macra* 'Alboaurea'

A deciduous grass that grows in hummocks of yellow and cream cascading leaves, turning reddish later.



## *Festuca glauca* 'Elijah Blue'

A tough, compact grass that forms tufts of silvery blue leaves (above). Perfect in a sunny spot.



## *Acorus gramineus* 'Ogon'

Best in full sun, it makes an architectural clump of evergreen pale green and cream leaves.



## *Carex comans* 'Frosted Curls'

Makes a graceful hummock of slender, silvery-green leaves in sun or shade.



## *Festuca amethystina*

A sun-loving grass with fine bluish foliage topped with purplish flowers in early summer. ➔



← **Carex oshimensis**  
**'Evergold'**

An indestructible evergreen with dark green leaves striped with golden yellow.



**Uncinia rubra**

An easy-going grass for sun or part shade, which forms a dense clump of reddish-brown leaves.



**Ophiopogon planiscapus**  
**'Nigrescens'**

A low-growing, grass-like plant with inky black strap-shaped leaves and purple flowers.



**Elymus magellanicus**

A tall, tufted, vigorous deciduous grass with silvery blue leaves. Best in a container.



**Carex comans**  
**bronze-leaved**

Tough as old boots, evergreen grass with brown-bronze leaves – perfect for containers. ☼



# Ten easy-to-grow shrubs

Shrubs are easy to grow and provide refuge for wildlife

## ***Hebe 'Autumn Glory'***

A tough, compact shrub with short spikes of dark purple flowers above leathery leaves in summer. The leaves become reddish-purple in autumn.



## ***Sarcococca confusa***

Perfect in semi-shade, this sweetly scented shrub, has creamy-white winter flowers, followed by black berries.



## ***Pittosporum tenuifolium 'Tom Thumb'***

A slow-growing, compact evergreen with dark purple leaves contrasting with light green young growth. Never needs pruning.



## ***Nandina domestica 'Firepower'***

A shorter variety of heavenly bamboo with white flowers, red berries and leaves that take on fiery tints later.



## ***Viburnum tinus 'Eve Price'***

An almost indestructible shrub for sun or partial shade with large heads of white flowers in winter and spring.



## ***Choisya ternata***

Medium-sized evergreen with aromatic foliage and scented white flowers, often appearing fitfully into winter.



## ***Mahonia 'Soft Caress'***

A compact variety with non-spiky and slender leaves. Delicate spires of yellow, honey-scented flowers in late summer and autumn.



## ***Hydrangea macrophylla 'Miss Saori'***

A white-and-pink hydrangea that keeps its colour in any type of soil. It needs light pruning only.



## ***Convolvulus cneorum***

A small spreading evergreen shrub with oblong, silvery leaves and funnel-shaped white flowers tinged pink in bud.



## ***Berberis thunbergii f. atropurpurea 'Helmond Pillar'***

Upright stems of dark reddish-purple leaves for sun or partial shade.



**Now's the  
season  
to...**

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garden**

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