

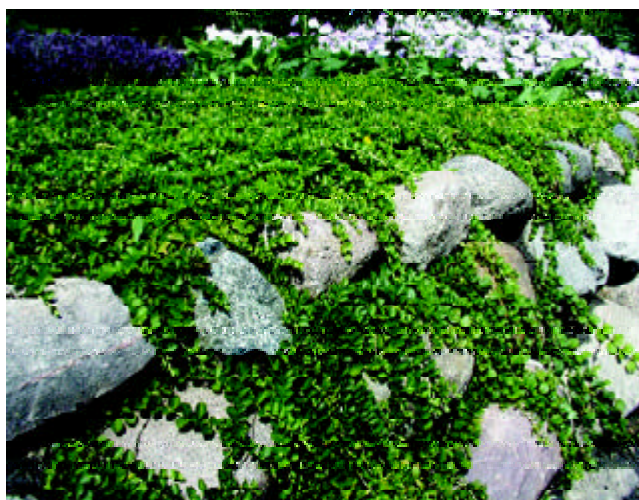
Ground Covers

WHAT ARE GROUND COVERS

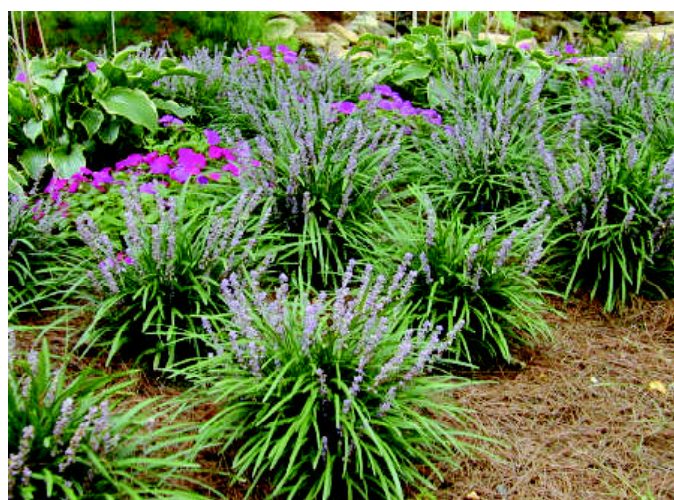
Traditionally, ground covers were a very short list, English Ivy, Myrtle, Pachysandra, and Lilyturf. Over used to the point of 'can't think of anything else', they were always at the top of everyone's list. Now we are in an enlightened age of horticulture. We can push the envelope, think outside of the box. Most ground cover plants are just that-plants that cover the ground. Can't mow that steep hill, too much shade anyway? Many shady perennials hug the ground, fill in the gaps, are evergreen and have wonderful flowers. Your steep hill is in hot boiling sun? There are many, many perennials that can do the job. Deep roots that can hold the soil are just as important as what is on top of the soil.

HOW TO USE GROUND COVERS

Ground covers can be used wherever grass does not grow, where tree roots interfere, instead of mulch, where a single large mass of plants is preferred over a variety. Ground covers can cover a multitude of sins. Plants can be selected that flower in any season of the year. Spring blooming bulbs can poke through most ground covers and the ground cover will hide the bulbs ripening foliage. Colorful foliage can contrast or complement with the flowers. Mix and match, there are no steadfast rules. There are plants for wet areas, dry areas, hot-sunny areas, or cool shady areas. You only need to match the situation to the needs of the plant. An area that stays wet all the time can be transformed into a bog garden or plan to use moisture-loving perennials. Some ground covers have fragrant foliage or flowers. These can be used between steppingstones and will release their wonderful fragrance when stepped on or when brushed against.



Lysmachia nummularia



Liriope muscari 'Big Blue'

HOW TO PLANT GROUNDCOVERS

Good drainage is essential to any planting and especially important with groundcovers. Select your plants according to their light requirements. Sun-plants will take all day sun and heat, Part Sun-plants need at least half a day of sun, and may not like late summer's heat, Shade-plants require all day shade, Part Shade-plants require at least half a day of shade or dappled shade. Many plants will adapt to adverse conditions, but may need extra care. When placing groundcovers around steppingstones be sure to allow enough room for growth, when they have overgrown their space, divide the plant and move the divisions to other places, you do not want to overflow onto the stones, the stones are for walking on, not slipping on. Plant at the same depth as the soil line. Keep the planting areas at an even level, low spots tend to retain too much moisture over the winter and may cause 'wet feet' and winter rot. Water newly planted groundcovers and maintain regular watering until established. Your groundcovers should be planted at the depth of the root zone of the pot they were grown in. But, the amount of soil can be deduced and your groundcover planted in shallow soil, between roots, in rock walls, and crevices. Stones will hold heat, and will create a microclimate that may keep your plants green and blooming longer than usual. Most groundcovers are maintenance free and just need to be pinched back and deadheaded once established.

THE BEAUTY OF GROUND COVERS

Easy to maintain and wonderfully attractive, ground covers are a gardener's delight. Once established they practically take care of themselves. You can choose varieties to grow in conditions ranging from deep shade to bright sun, from poor, sandy soil to perfectly prepared garden soil. Your choices are only limited by your imagination. Try new plants; expand your gardener's palette of colors and textures, experiment with the multitude of combinations available to today's gardener. Several seasons of interest.

Check out TREADWELL Perennials 'Plants that can be TREAD on.' From Light to Heavy.



Ground Covers




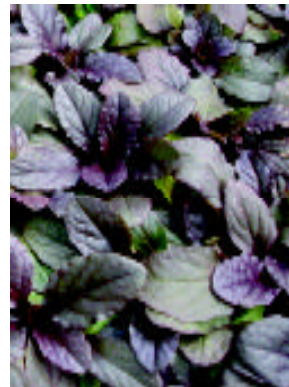
Aegopodium podagraria
'Variegatum'

Snow on the Mountain or Bishop's Weed

A prime addition to the dry shade groundcover list, Variegated Aegopodium spreads rapidly through the summer under high limbed trees, in the rock garden, and in a range of difficult areas. Small white flowers appear late May-June about 8" above the low variegated foliage.

Plant 18" apart.

Zones 3 - 9 



Ajuga reptans
'Bronze Bugle'
Bugle weed



Dark bronze-purple leaves with indigo flower spikes in May and June. Rapid growth rate.

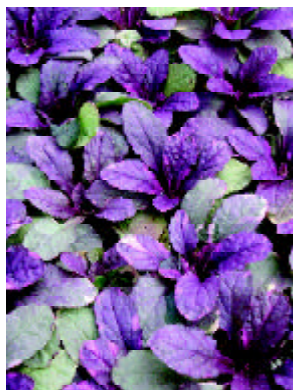
2 1/4" peat pots.

50 per flat.



Plant 6" apart.

Zones 4 - 9  





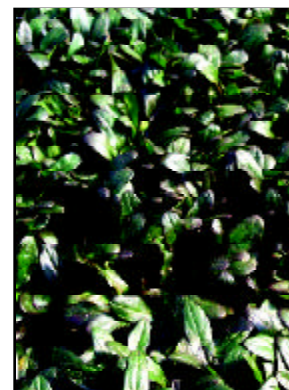
Ajuga Reptans
'Burgundy Glow'
Bugle weed

Variegated green, white, and burgundy leaves with lilac flower spikes in mid-spring to early summer. Rapid growth rate



Plant 6" apart.

Zones 4 - 9  



Ajuga 'Chocolate Chip'
Dwarf Bugle Weed

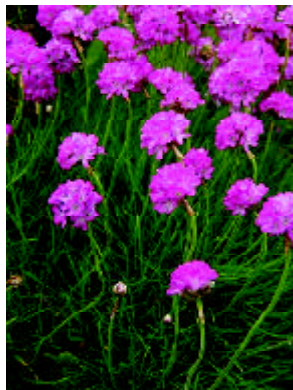
Narrow miniature leaves are a rich dark chocolate color forming tidy rosettes that hug the ground at 2". Lacy blue flowers at 3" will shine in May and June.

Extensive breeding makes this Ajuga a delightful true natural dwarf alternative to the traditional groundcover for sun or shade.

Plant 12" apart.



Zones 4 - 9   



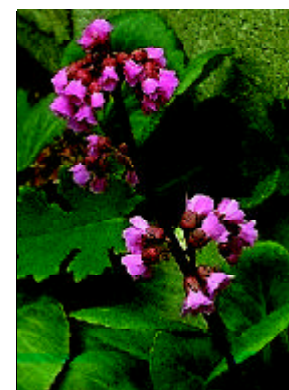
Armeria maritima 'Splendens'
Thrift

Outstanding for its continuous show of vibrant, rose-pink, rounded 1" flower heads on 6-8" stems from May to July. Dwarf and mound forming, its grassy foliage provides the gardener an excellent choice for edging, for use in beds, borders, or for the rock garden.

Plant 12" apart.





Zones 4 - 10    

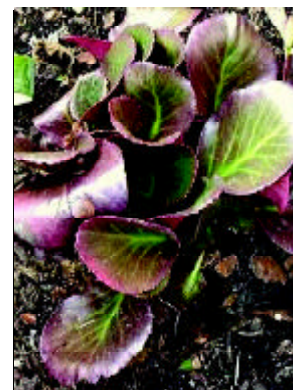


Bergenia cordifolia
Heartleaf

Distinctive glossy, heart-shaped leathery leaves are evergreen, turning warm, ruddy shades in the fall. Bright pink flower clusters bloom in April and May about 12" from the base and flower for weeks. They prefer rich, humusy soil that retains moisture and would rather be spared the midday sun. Our humid summers sometimes makes Bergenia appealing to slugs, so some control may be warranted. Try it with Dicentra for a gorgeous look.

Plant 18" apart.

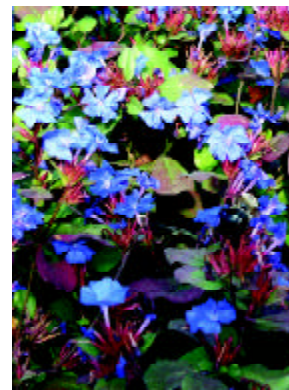
Zones 4 - 10  



Bergenia x 'Bressingham Ruby'
Heartleaf

Handsome evergreen foliage turns ruby bronze in cool weather and the new growth in the spring emerges green. Growing to a height of about 12". From mid to late spring, above this glossy foliage, deep rosy red flowers appear. This perennial definitely has more than one season appeal. PP7344. **Plant 12" apart.**




Zones 3 - 10   



Ceratostigma plumbaginoides
Lead Wort

One of the most rewarding, colorful, and easy-to-grow perennials, Plumbago reaches just 12" in height and forms a green ground cover, covered with clusters of gorgeous peacock blue flowers from August into October. The foliage turns deep mahogany in fall, but the brilliant flowers keep opening, which makes an eye-catching show.

Excellent for edging, under planting shrubs, or as a ground cover over bulbs as it breaks dormancy late in spring. **Plant 12" apart.**

Zones 5 - 9   



Ground Covers (continued)



Chrysogonum virginianum
Green and Gold or Goldenstar
 This is a low growing, low maintenance, spreading perennial with bright green leaves. It has yellow star shaped flowers which bloom in the spring and then sporadically through out the summer. Grows 6-8" in well-drained soil.

Plant 12" apart.



Zones 4 - 8  

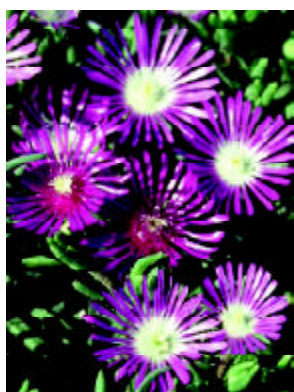


Convallaria majalis
Lily-of-the-Valley



The old-fashioned garden favorite is a fantastic shady ground cover looking spectacular in a mass with its fragrant white bells in April and May. At about 8" in height, plants are easy to grow and will last a lifetime. A layer of organic compost applied in December or January will insure a healthy, prolific performance next spring. Try it with Lady Fern, Dicentra 'Eximia', and Pulmonaria. **Plant 12" apart**

Zones 4 - 9    




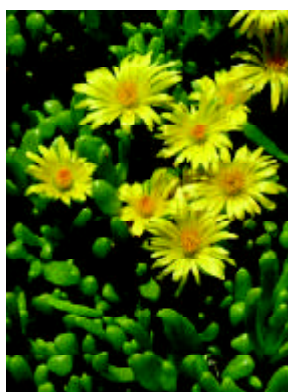
Delosperma floribundum
'Starburst'



Trailing Hardy Ice Plant
 Same bright pink flowers as D. cooperi from June until frost, but with a bold white center that does justice to the name. The succulent foliage is shiny deep green, but with a metallic cast. This is an award-winner with the same easy ground cover-edger functions as cooperi.

Plant 18" apart.

Zones 6 - 9 




Delosperma nubigenum
'Basutoland'

Trailing Hardy Ice Plant
 Bright yellow, flat, dime-sized florets peep above succulent, fleshy lime green trailing foliage in May-June. Same cascading habit as cooperi, making an excellent ground cover at just 1-2", it is irresistible peeping out of a stonewall, in the rock garden or between stones on a walkway.

Plant 18" apart.



Zones 5 - 9 




Delosperma cooperi
Trailing Hardy Ice Plant.



Rosy-pink daisies are produced from June through September above a dense mat of succulent foliage that hugs the ground no more than 3" high. Easy to grow and drought-tolerant, it is lovely cascading over a wall, edging the front of the border, as a ground cover, or as a container plant.

Plant 18" apart

Zones 5 - 9 



Dianthus allwoodii
'Frosty Fire'

Garden Pinks

Semi-double deep, dark pink (almost red) fragrant flowers grace the blue-gray foliage of this 6-8" plant most prolifically in June, and then off and on through the rest of the summer. Given good drainage and a spot at the front of the border, this Canadian Ornamental Plant Foundation introduction will perform well for us right here in the mid-Atlantic. Propagation prohibited.

Plant 18" apart.

Zones 4 - 9     

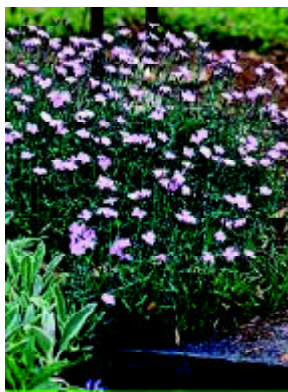


Dianthus barbatus
Sweet William

Here's the old-fashioned favorite that comes in the traditional colors ranging from white through pink, reds, and burgundy, and looks best massed in the border or rock garden. Flat clusters of slightly scented 1" flowers bloom only 6" in late spring. Treat as a biennial, Sweet William self-sows readily.

Plant 18" apart.

Zones 4 - 10     



Dianthus gratianopolitanus
'Bath's Pink'

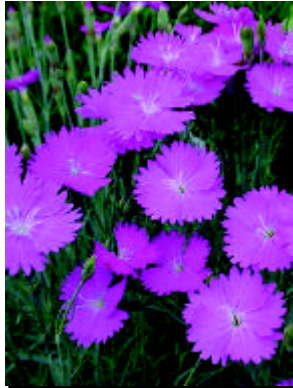
Garden Pinks

Single, soft pink, fringed 1" flowers appear in May-June and are sweetly clove-scented, forming spreading low mounds of blue-green needle-like foliage. Only 6-8" high, they are very tolerant of high heat and humidity.

Plant 18" apart.

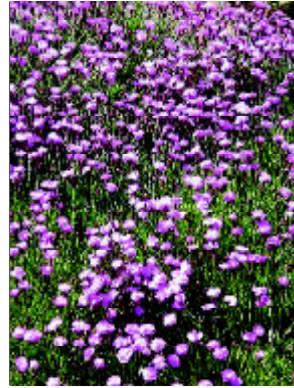
Zones 5 - 9     

Ground Covers (continued)



Dianthus gratianopolitanus 'Firewitch' Garden Pinks
 When a number of customers touted this Dianthus throughout the growing season, we decided to see for ourselves, and here's the scoop: magenta single-petal blooms at 8-10" will fill your garden in May and June with their lovely fragrance. This long-bloomer has blue-green foliage.
Plant 18" apart.

Zones 3 - 8     



Dianthus gratianopolitanus 'Tiny Rubies' Garden Pinks
 Flowers that appear in June are doubles with a deep, rich rose-red color that contrasts nicely with its spreading mat of blue-green leaves. At only 4" in height, 'Tiny Rubies' will delight you with its fragrant blooms.
Plant 18" apart.



Zones 5 - 9     








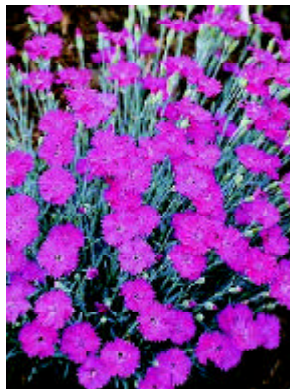
Dianthus gratianopolitanus 'Pixie' Cheddar Pinks
 Fragrant 1-1/2" flowers are pink, splashed with darker pink accents above blue foliage in May and June to 12". Very hardy with vigorous growth, 'Pixie' will bloom repeatedly from spring into fall. Blooms of Bressingham introduction.
 PPAF.
Plant 18" apart.

Zones 3 - 8     



Dianthus x 'Arctic Star' Garden pinks
 Bears lightly fragrant double pure white flowers against mounded gray-green foliage. Grows best in full sun with average well-drained soil. Deadheading will keep it looking its best and it will bloom from June into September. Grows 6-8" and is best used in rock gardens or front of the border.
Plant 18" apart.

Zones 5 - 9     



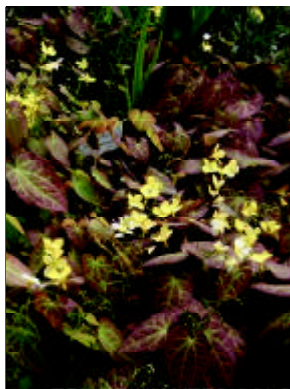
Dianthus x 'Neon Star' Garden Pinks
 Sweetly fragrant, 'Neon Star' has vibrant florescent pink-fringed flowers that contrast nicely with compact blue-gray foliage. This plant thrives best with full sun and well-drained moderately dry soil. Will grow 6-8" tall and with deadheading, will bloom spring thru fall. Combines well with Platycodon, Eupobias and Festuca.
Plant 18" apart

Zones 5 - 9     



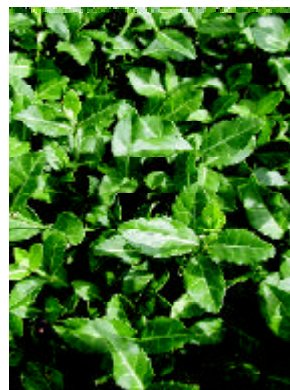
Epimedium rubrum Barrenwort
 A ground cover unlike any other, with heart-shaped leaves that are tinged red-bronze on the edges. It is the best ground cover for dry shade needing a good loamy soil. The semi-evergreen foliage is 9" tall and develops clusters of red starry flowers with white spurs in May close to the leaves. Lovely planted among trees in woodland setting. Try it with Pulmonaria, Carex, and blue Hostas.
Plant 12" apart.

Zones 5 - 9   



Epimedium versicolor x 'Sulphureum' Barrenwort
 Sports masses of small deep yellow star-shaped flowers in April. Cut old foliage to the ground in spring so that flowers will be visible. At 12" in height, the heart-shaped leaves on wiry stems are bronze when young, then mature to green. Massed in the foreground of a shady bed or as edging, this drought tolerant perennial can't be beat.
Plant 12" apart.

Zones 5 - 9   



Euonymus Coloratus coloratus
 Heavily rooted cuttings are flame-red in fall.





100 per flat.
Plant 6" apart.

Zones 4 - 9   

Ground Covers (continued)



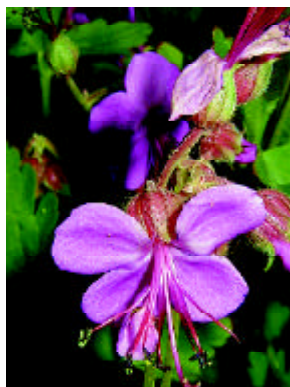
Fragaria x 'Lipstick'
Flowering Strawberry
 Deep pink 1" flowers cover the handsome, deep green foliage of 'Lipstick' from May into October. They are sensational in hanging baskets, window boxes, or as edging for a walk or border. Runners produce a graceful, trailing effect on the 6" plant which is easy to grow, vigorous, hardy, semi-evergreen, and has edible though bland-flavored berries. **Plant 24" apart.**

Zones 3 - 9  



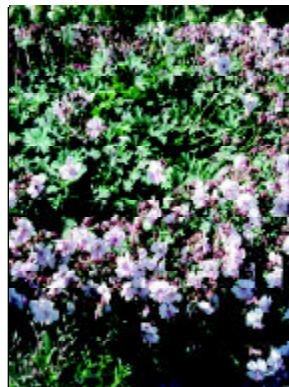
Galium odoratum
Sweet Woodruff
 Galium is an herb-like ground cover with whorled shiny-green leaves that hug the ground at about 6". It prospers in the shady, moist, well-drained, slightly acidic soil site it loves best. Fragrant tiny white flowers are a bonus in May and June. The foliage is fragrant when dried. Galium works well under shrubs or in a naturalized area. **Plant 18" apart.**

Zones 3 - 9      





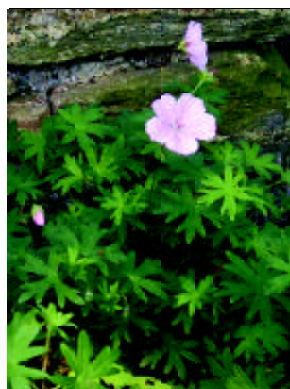
Geranium cantabrigiense
Cranes Bill
 This cross between G. macrorrhizum and G. dalmaticum forms a dense, compact, rounded mass of foliage that maintains its shape throughout the summer. It blooms mid summer a rose pink flower and grows 6-8" tall. **Plant 18" apart.**

Zones 4 - 8   





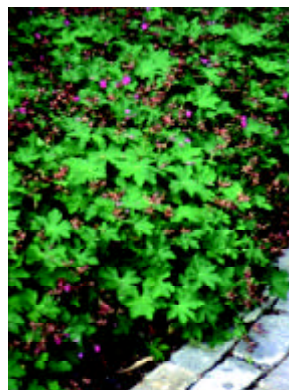
Geranium cantabrigiense
'Biokovo'
Cranes Bill
 We couldn't resist adding this lovely white-flowering Geranium with its bit of pink border, to our selection. A valuable ground cover at 12", the shiny leaves turn fiery red in the fall and are somewhat evergreen. Expect the flowers in June and July. An added bonus is the spicy fragrance of the foliage throughout the season. **Plant 18" apart.**

Zones 4 - 8  



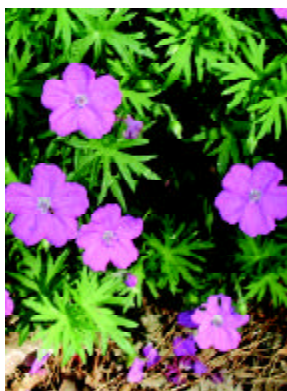
Geranium lancastricense
Cranes Bill
 Creeping and carpet-like at 6", lancastricense blooms most heavily in June and July, but its little salmon-pink flowers with a crimson vein will appear into late summer. **Plant 18" apart.**

Zones 5 - 8  



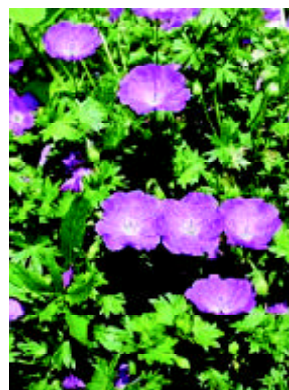
Geranium macrorrhizum
'Ingwersen's Variety'
Cranes Bill
 Small rosy-pink flowers appear in clusters above the aromatic semi-evergreen leaves from the end of May through June on this weed-smothering ground cover. We like the bright bronze and scarlet of the leaves in fall and the compact carpeting effect at 12" in height. **Plant 18" apart.**

Zones 5 - 8   



Geranium sanguineum
Bloody Cranestill
 Glowing flowers of reddish-purple from June into August will take your breath away. Then in the fall, the dark green leaves which look like asterisks, turn a bright red—thus the nickname Bloody Cranestill. At about 6" in height, it will benefit from a bit of shade in the hottest months of our Maryland summer. **Plant 18" apart.**

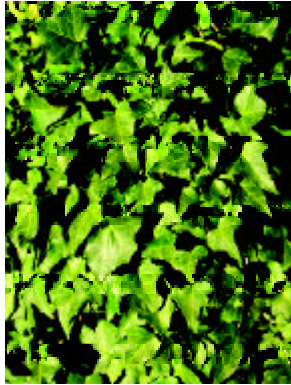
Zones 5 - 8   



Geranium sanguineum
'Max Frei'
Cranes Bill
 We see increased demand for 'Max Frei' as more folks discover its compact, fast-growing, attractive foliage and profusion of dependable deep magenta flowers from June into August. What a hardy groundcover at 6 - 10". **Plant 18" apart.**

Zones 3 - 9   

Ground Covers (continued)



Hedera helix
English Ivy

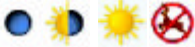
English Ivy does best in the sun, but covers nicely in shaded areas.

Heavily rooted cuttings.

Plant 6" apart.



Zones 4 - 9



Hedera Algeriensis
Algerian Ivy

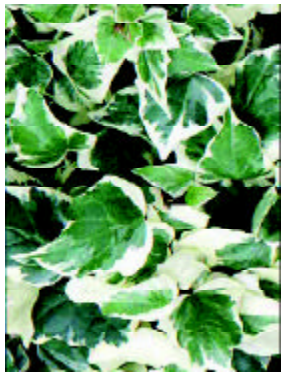
6" leaves are glossy green with 3-7 lobes. Reddish stems have a prostrate habit.

Moderate to rapid growth rate.

Height: 12"



Zones 7 - 10



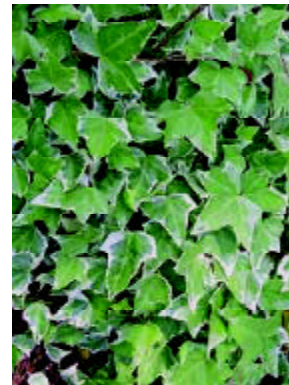
Hedera Algeriensis Variegata
Variegated Algerian Ivy

Glossy green triangular leaves with creamy white margins on red stems. Moderate to rapid growth rate.

Height 12"



Zones 7 - 10



Hedera helix 'Anne Marie'
White Variegated Ivy

1.5"-2 1/2" leaves with green and white variegation. Tolerates drought, heat and humidity.

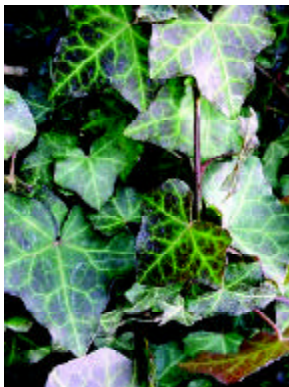
Moderate to rapid growth rate.

Moderate to rapid growth rate.

Height: 12"



Zones 5 - 10



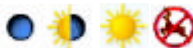
Hedera helix 'Baltica'
Baltic Ivy

Dark green leaves with white veins, slightly smaller than English Ivy. Rapid growth rate.

Height: 8-12"



Zones 5 - 10



Hedera helix 'Glacier'
Variegated Ivy

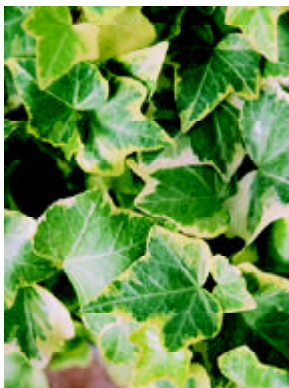
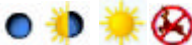
Grey-green leaves have silver-gray and cream margins with 3-5 lobes.

Slow growth rate.

Best used cascading over walls or flower pots. Trailer that looks great on wall and in pots.



Zones 5 - 11



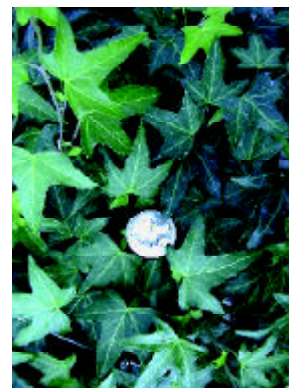
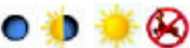
Hedera helix 'Gold Child'
Variegated Ivy

2"-3" green leaves with gold margins. Leaves will darken in full shade. Moderate growth rate.

Height: 12"



Zones 6 - 10



Hedera helix 'Needlepoint'
Needlepoint Ivy

Small (1.5"-2") delicate leaves with sharply pointed lobes and an elongated central lobe.

Moderate growth rate.

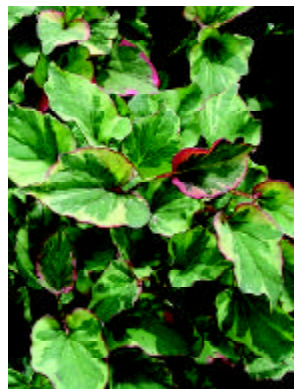
Height: 6-12"



Zones 6 - 10



Ground Covers (continued)





Houttuynia cordata
'Chameleon'



Chameleon Plant

At 6-9", the green, red and cream leaves of this moisture-loving ground cover will prosper in a situation where they can roam freely. In moist, cool conditions with rich soil, they will spread faster and farther than you can believe, but are tolerant of all soil types. Planting in containers will control spreading. Insignificant white flowers appear in May and June. **Plant 18" apart.**

Zones 4 - 8  





Iberis sempervirens
'Snowflake'

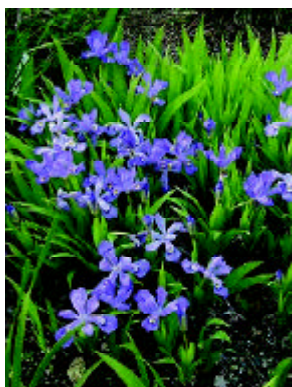


Candytuft

Cascading over a rock wall, at the front of the border, or in a rock garden, this popular evergreen dwarf has clusters of white flowers at 9-12" that appear from April to June. After flowering, it should be cut back to maintain the foliage and keep it compact. 'Snowflake' is an abundant bloomer with large green leaves and prefers well-drained alkaline soil.

Zones 3 - 7  

Plant 18" apart.



Iris cristata

Dwarf Crested Iris

It is native to eastern United States. Cristata is a fast grower with creeping fleshy stems and fans of bright green strappy leaves, which makes it a good ground cover. Charming blue-violet flowers are carried above the foliage mid to late spring, growing 6" tall.

Plant 12" apart

Zones 5 - 9    

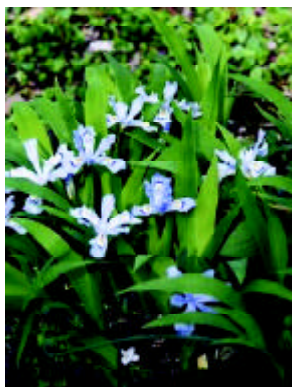


Iris cristata 'Alba'
Dwarf Crested Iris

A vigorous form of this beautiful native with pure white, gold-crested flowers in mid-spring. Spreads relatively quickly into a dense carpet making it a great ground cover. Narrow, yellowish green leaves arise about 6" from a network of rhizomes.

Plant 12" apart.

Zones 5 - 9    



Iris cristata

'Powder Blue Giant'

Dwarf Crested Iris

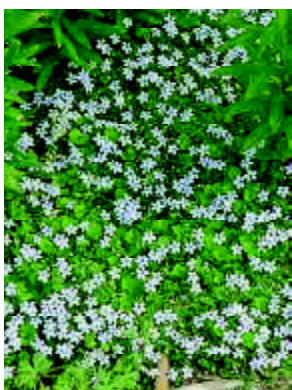
It is like the species but has huge soft powder blue, with deep blue and white markings and gold crested blooms in the spring and larger leaves. Grows to 10" and has a vigorous growth habit.

Plant 12" apart.

Zones 5 - 9    



Two examples of TREADWELL 'Blue Star Creeper'



Isotoma fluviatilis (Laurentia fluviatilis)

Blue Star Creeper

A cute ground cover with sky blue star shaped flowers late spring through summer. It has medium green foliage, which spreads to form a dense low growing mat at about 3" in height. Use it between stepping stones or as a layer over bulbs.

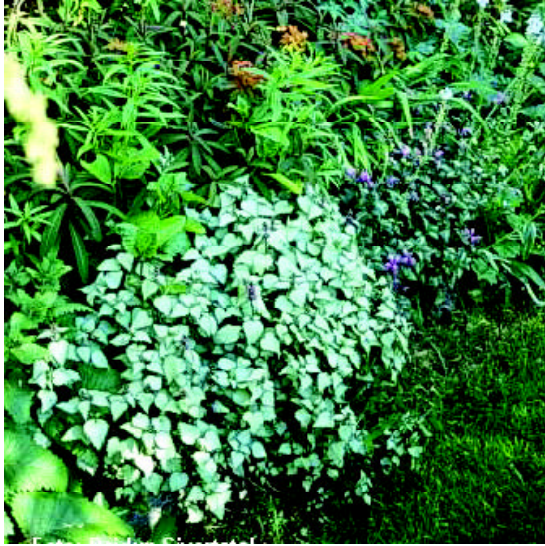
Plant 10" apart.



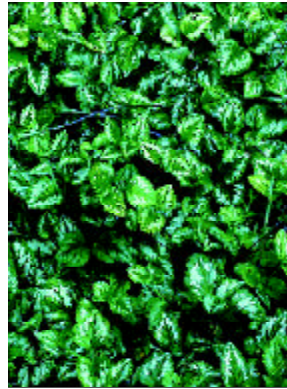
Zones 5 - 9   



Ground Covers (continued)



Lamium used as a garden border





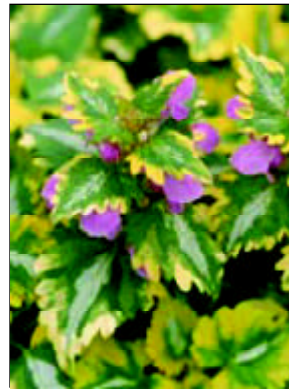
Lamiastrum galeobdolon
'Herman's Pride'
Yellow Archangel

The small green leaves with striking silver variegation form tidy mounds at 15–18", which spread evenly in the high shade, and dryish soil it likes best. A dependable ground cover where little else will grow; the small yellow flowers are a bonus in May. A nice alternative to the Lamiums.

Plant 18" apart.





Zones 4 - 9  



Lamium maculatum
'Anne Greenway'
Dead Nettle

This cheery looking lamium has a blend of silvery mint green, medium green, and chartreuse foliage 6-8" in height. Growth will be most compact in moist well-drained soil. 'Anne Greenway' will benefit by a shearing in the spring to help stimulate healthy new growth. As an added bonus there are lavender pink blooms that appear late spring into early summer. **Plant 18" apart.**





Zones 3 - 9  



Lamium maculatum 'Beacon Silver'
Dead Nettle

An especially good ground cover for shady areas under trees, 'Beacon Silver' seems to prefer a bit more shade than our other varieties. The metallic silver leaves are edged in green at 8", the pink flowers are a bright contrast in April–July, and to top it off, the foliage turns a bit bronze as our weather cools in fall. **Plant 18" apart**





Zones 3 - 9  

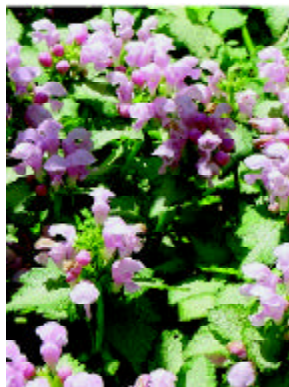


Lamium maculatum 'Red Nancy'
Dead Nettle

This Lamium has silver leaves with a green edge, and sports very rosy pink flowers from April to July above the 8–10" ground covering foliage. It has the same tolerance for dryish soil and a good deal of shade as other Lamium maculatum. **Plant 18" apart.**




Zones 4 - 9  



Lamium maculatum 'Shell Pink'
Dead Nettle

The popularity of this hardy ground cover is understandable when you consider that it tolerates poor soils, spreads rapidly, thrives in dry shade sites, handles a range of light conditions, and has lovely green and white variegated foliage that shines in shady areas under trees. 'Shell Pink' has soft pink flowers close above the 8" foliage from April to July. **Plant 18" apart.**



Zones 4 - 9 





Lamium maculatum 'White Nancy'
Dead Nettle

Vigorous in its spreading habit, 'White Nancy' has green-edged silver leaves with white flower clusters close to the 8" leaves from April to July. In the shade or semi-shade, its luminous leaves look cool and peaceful on a hot summer day.

Plant 18" apart.



Zones 4 - 9  

Ground Covers (continued)



Liriope muscari 'Big Blue'
Lilyturf
 One of the best ground covers for shade, this clump grower has arching, grass-like green foliage 12" tall. It has lilac blue flowers in July and August, which are then followed by shiny black berries in the fall. Cut back the old foliage in early spring and that's about all the maintenance they require. Mass it under trees and shrubs or use it as edging. **Plant 18" apart.**

Zones 4 - 10    



Liriope 'Royal Purple'
Lilyturf
 This grass-like evergreen perennial forms a heavy and dense mass. Leaves are 1 in. wide and 12-18 in. long. Flowering occurs in late summer, and flowers are formed on upright stems in clusters, which reach 6 to 8 in. wide. 'Royal Purple' has dark purple flowers. **Height: 12-15"**
Spacing 9-12"

Zones 5 - 10    



Liriope muscari 'Monroe White'
Lilyturf
 Liriope grows best in acid soil in partial to full shade, which protects it from sun damage in both summer and winter. It is valued as a ground cover, is both heat tolerant and resistant to pests and diseases, handles dry shade, and is evergreen in quality. 'Monroe White' has spikes of white flowers in September, followed by the black berries above grassy green 12" foliage. **Plant 18" apart.**

Zones 4 - 10    



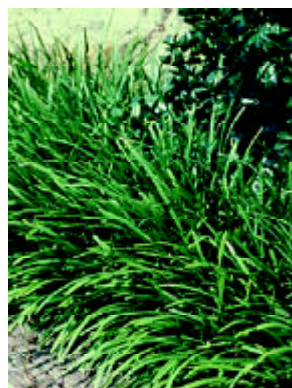
Liriope muscari 'Royal Purple'
Lilyturf
 Clump grower with 3/8" wide leaf blade. Deep purple flowers in late summer reach 6-8". Moderate to fast growth rate. **Height: 12-15"**
Spacing 9-12"

Zones 5 - 10    



Liriope muscari 'Variegata'
Variegated Lilyturf
 Variegata has the same excellent qualities as the solid green Liriope, but with the brightening effect of the yellow and green striped grass-like foliage. Its lilac purple flowers are striking in July and August. It also reaches 12" in height and its tufts make a classic ground cover. **Plant 18" apart.**

Zones 4 - 10    



Liriope spicata
Creeping Lilyturf
 Perhaps the hardiest species of Liriope, spicata has pale lavender flower spikes in July-August close to the 12" grassy green foliage. Spicata quickly forms a thick mat of evergreen foliage and is known to withstand colder temperatures than other Liriope although its flowers are just a bit smaller and not as showy. A mowing or trim in early spring will encourage growth. **Plant 18" apart**

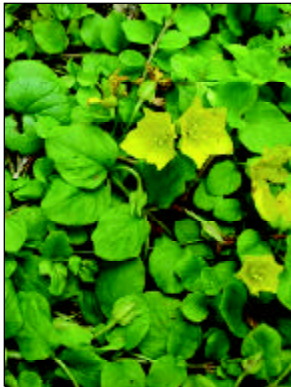
Zones 5 - 10    



Liriope spicata 'Silver Dragon'
Variegated Creeping Lilyturf
 1/4 " wide leaf blades have silver/white stripes. Pale lavender flower spikes arrive in late summer followed by blackish berries in the fall. Moderate growth rate. **Height: 12-15"**
" Spacing 9-12"

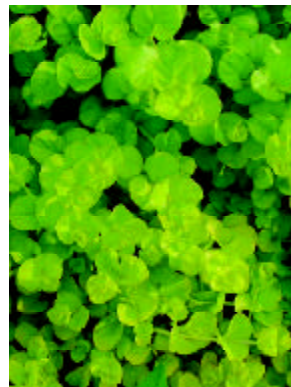
Zones 5 - 10    

Ground Covers (continued)





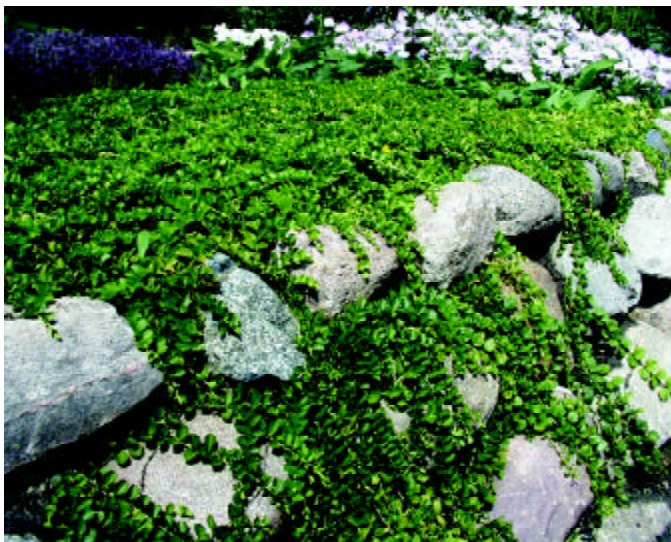
Lysimachia nummularia
Creeping Jenny
This little ground hugger (3-4") is always sought after and enjoyed by gardeners despite its aggressiveness. The species has small round green leaves with root nodes between that account for Creeping Jenny's ability to fill in around steps, rocks, or pathways. Equally gracious spilling over a container or window box, it has fragrant little yellow flowers in May. **Plant 18" apart.**

Zones 3 - 8  



Lysimachia nummularia 'Aurea'
Golden Creeping Jenny
Sharon Branson, key nursery staffer, likens gold-leaved 'Aurea' to a "shower of golden coins" covering the ground at 3-4" where this best selection of Creeping Jenny brightens the rock garden or pathway between stepping stones. No matter that the yellow flowers in May are lost in the bright foliage. Try it as an underpinning to Geranium 'Rozanne' or the rich dark blue of Veronica 'Royal Candles' spikes. **Plant 18" apart.**

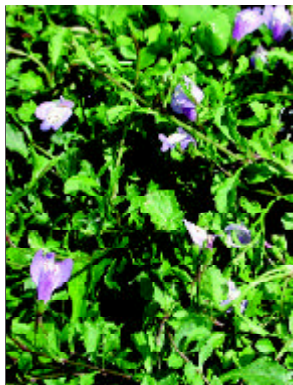
Zones 3 - 8  



Lysimachia nummularia





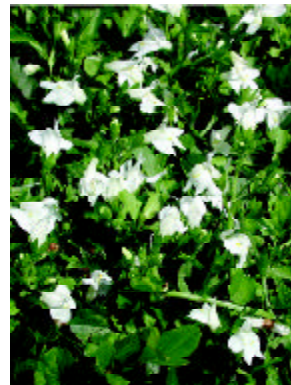
Mazus reptans 'Creeping Blue Mazus'



Mazus reptans
Creeping Blue Mazus
Same fast-spreading, tight, 1" carpet of little green leaves as our white Mazus, with blue flowers appearing in May-June close to the foliage. Handling some foot traffic, it is the perfect choice between stones on a path, or as a carpet under rose bushes. **Plant 18" apart.**





Zones 4 - 9  



Mazus reptans 'Albus'
Creeping White Mazus
Literally a carpet of bright green small leaves that spread rapidly in full sun to make a thick mat at about 1". Moisture-tolerant, tough and hardy, Mazus sports white flowers in May and June just above the foliage. It works well in the rock garden, as an underpinning to roses, or between stepping-stones or pavers along a pathway. This is a strong grower and can't be beat as a ground cover alternative. **Plant 18" apart.**



Zones 4 - 9  

Ground Covers (continued)



Ophiopogon planiscapus 'Ebony Knight'
Black Mondo Grass

The unique black, grass-like leaves are a color rarity among plants. At 6", 'Ebony Knight' reminds us of Liriope with its grassy foliage. It has rather insignificant pale pink flowers in early fall followed by black berries. While slow growing, it is most frequently used as edging or as a ground cover that forms dense grass-like turf. Try it with Hostas of any color for a dynamic effect.

Zones 6 - 10

Plant 8 - 10" apart.



Ophiopogon japonicus
Common Mondo

Dark Green grass like foliage grows in clumps or mounds. Light lilac to white flowers in summer. Moderate growth rate. Taller than Nana with thin graceful leaves. **Mondo Grass** that forms foot-wide and 8" high mounds of straplike, 1/4" leaves. Short racemes of small white or lilac-tinted flowers in summer are followed by blue-black berries

Zones 5 - 10

Spacing: 4-8"



Ophiopogon j. 'Kyoto'
Super Dwarf Mondo

Very tight and compact with narrow green foliage. Beautiful in walkways and pathways. **Kyoto** is a dwarf form of Mondo Grass that is also used for bonsai. Dark jade green leaves, 1" tall. First cultivated sometime during the last half of the 7th century (and you don't have yours yet?). If you are lucky enough to get it to bloom, you may see the fruit the size of large peas and bright peacock blue.

Height: 1" Spacing: 4-8"

Zones 5 - 10

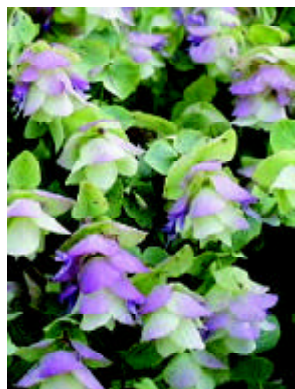


Ophiopogon japonicus 'Nana'
Dwarf Mondo Grass

At 3", this dwarf variety of Mondo Grass has very dark green, grass-like foliage. This is a dependable performer if given the shady moisture-retentive soil it likes. A great rock garden choice as well as a shady ground cover.

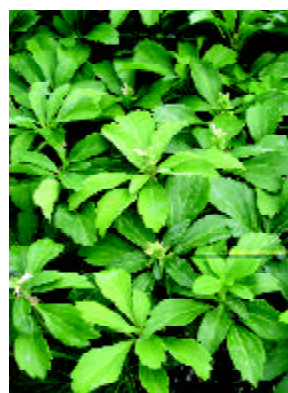
Plant 8-10" apart.

Zones 5 - 10



Origanum rotundifolium 'Kent Beauty'
Ornamental Oregano

Here is a great container plant, but also one especially useful in a rock garden. Beautiful dusty-rose to deep mauve-pink flowers appear on hop-like bracts with small, oval gray-green veined leaves. Flowers bloom at 10" from June-September on another drought-tolerant, long blooming perennial, quite happy to perform in poor, well-drained sandy soil. Plant 18" apart.



Pachysandra terminalis

Perfect for dense shade or light shade. 1 1/2"-4" veined leaves are slightly toothed at ends. Small white flower appear in clusters in spring. Slow to moderate growth rate.

Plant 6" apart.

Zones 4 - 9



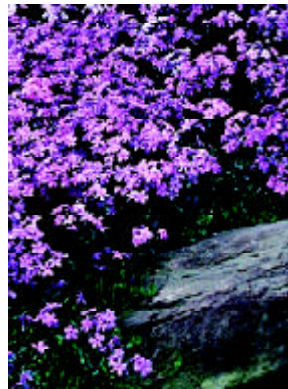
Ground Covers (continued)



Phlox stolonifera 'Blue Ridge' Creeping Phlox
 Our shade gardening customers love the native Creeping Phlox for its glossy, semi-evergreen foliage with masses of bloom in May about 8" above the mat of leaves. No wonder Creeping Phlox was chosen the 1990 Perennial Plant of the Year. The lavish, light blue flowers of 'Blue Ridge' appear in April and May when spring bulbs are at their peak. **Plant 18" apart.**



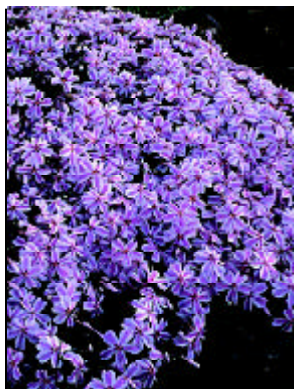
Zones 5 - 9 ☀️ 🌙 🌿 🏠



Phlox stolonifera 'Home Fires' Creeping Phlox
 Their rich, deep pink color make native 'Home Fires' glow above the deep green of their mat of spreading foliage. Under trees and shrubs the evergreen foliage is exceptional. Blooms in April and May to 8". **Plant 18" apart.**



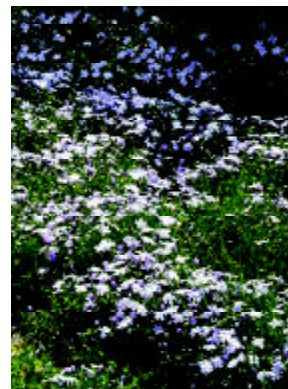
Zones 5 - 9 ☀️ 🌙 🌿 🏠



Phlox subulata 'Candy Stripes' Moss Pinks
 Soft, evergreen, mossy foliage underlies this 4-6" bicolor which is white with a wide bright pink stripe. This colorful native reaches full bloom in April-May, but will often rebloom in the fall. **Plant 18" apart**



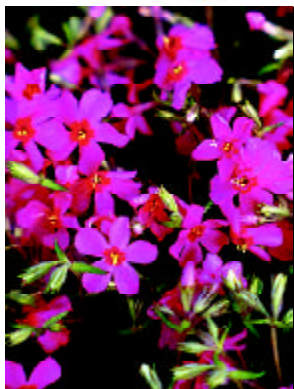
Zones 5 - 9 ☀️ 🌙 🌿 🏠



Phlox subulata 'Emerald Blue' Moss Pinks
 A popular color of the native Moss Pinks is this blue with the same evergreen mossy foliage, blooming in April at 4-6". **Plant 18" apart**



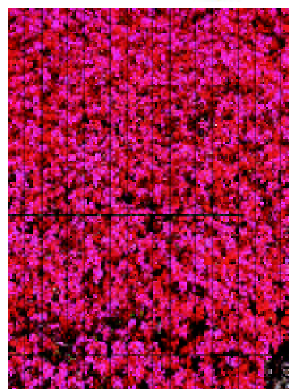
Zones 5 - 9 ☀️ 🌙 🌿 🏠



Phlox subulata 'Millstream Daphne' Moss Pinks
 Same low mat of rich evergreen foliage smothered with intense pink flowers in April-May at 4-6" in height. We have chosen 'Millstream Daphne' for its more compact habit. It prefers a sunny well-drained site, is fairly drought-tolerant, spreads quickly, and certainly looks cheerful when used as edging or in the rock garden. **Plant 18" apart**



Zones 5 - 9 ☀️ 🌙 🌿 🏠



Phlox subulata 'Scarlet Flame' Moss Pinks
 This native Phlox is scarlet red in April and May, and grows to a height of 4-6" with that soft evergreen mossy foliage. Stunning! **Plant 18" apart.**



Zones 5 - 9 ☀️ 🌙 🌿 🏠



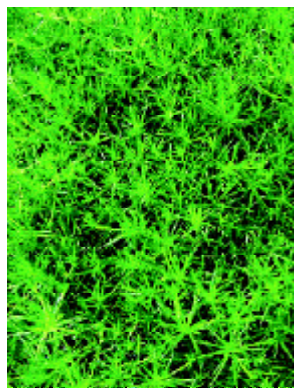
Phlox subulata 'White Delight' Moss Pinks
 Pristine white flowers are profuse on this old favorite in April and May. Dense and compact, the white flowers cover the evergreen mossy foliage to a height of 4-6". **Plant 18" apart.**



Zones 5 - 9 ☀️ 🌙 🌿 🏠



Ground Covers (continued)

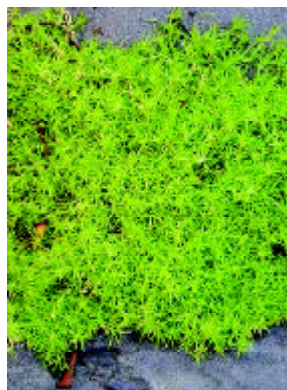


Sagina subulata
Irish Moss
 Fast-growing evergreen Irish Moss forms a dense mat of softest green to surround stepping stones or in rock gardens. At 1", it even sports a mass of tiny fragrant white flowers in May-June. Give it ample moisture to grow in the sun, but it prefers bright shade.

Plant 18" apart



Zones 5 - 8 ☀️

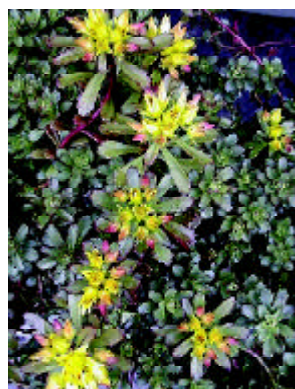


Sagina subulata 'Aurea'
Scotch Moss
 Has lime green to yellow foliage and forms a low moss-like carpet growing 1-2" tall. Little white flowers will appear in late spring on this evergreen plant. Excellent for filling in between stepping-stones or in a rock garden. Likes moist well-drained soil.

Plant 10" apart.



Zones 5 - 8 ☀️



Sedum floriferum
'Weihenstephaner Gold'
Stone Crop
 This fine ground cover has fleshy, but fine-textured, green mounded foliage in the summer that becomes covered with lovely golden-yellow flowers in June and July to a height of 3-4". The foliage turns red in the fall. So useful as a ground cover for difficult dry slopes, and enchanting in the rock garden.

Plant 18" apart



Zones 4 - 9 ☀️ 🚫



Sedum rupestre 'Angelina'
 The evergreen needle like leaves shine a brilliant golden yellow that grows to about 4" in full sun and well drained soil. When the weather turns cooler, the tips of the leaves turn a reddish orange tinge, which lasts all winter. Yellow flowers appear in early summer.

Plant 15" apart .



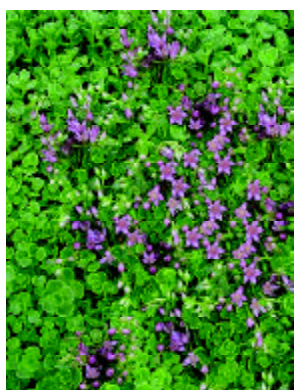
Zones 3 - 8



Sedum spurium 'Fuldaglut'
Stone Crop
 Sedums are fleshy-leaved, low-growing plants that come in a wide range of forms and colors, very useful for late season bloom and foliage color well into the winter. 'Fuldaglut' has green-bronze foliage 3-4" high, that flowers deep red in July and August at that height. This small Sedum is enchanting in the rock garden, as a ground cover. Considered an improved variety of 'Dragon's Blood' Sedum. **Plant 18" apart.**



Zones 4 - 9 ☀️ 🚫

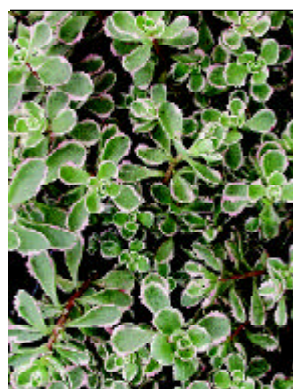


Sedum spurium
'John Creech'
John Creech Sedum
 This plant is a vigorous, mat-forming perennial with blue green, fleshy, scalloped leaves and grows 2-5" tall. Pink flowers appear mid summer. Use as a groundcover or in a rock garden.

Plant 12" apart.



Zones 3 - 9 ☀️ 🦋 ✂️ 🚫



Sedum spurium 'Tricolor'
Stone Crop
 Tiny white and green leaves with a pink edge on this fast-growing ground cover spread quickly, love heat and bright sunshine, and stay attractive all summer. September brings the soft pink, almost white, flowers that hug the foliage at no more than 4-6". New leaf clusters look like tiny rosettes. A charming, but tough-as-nails Sedum.

Plant 18" apart.



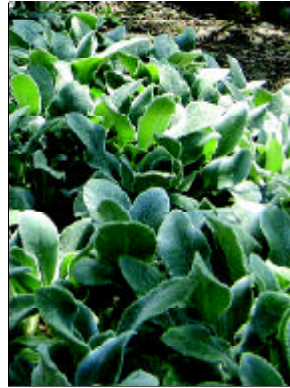
Zones 3 - 9 ☀️ 🚫

Ground Covers (continued)



Sisyrinchium angustifolium
'Lucerne'
Blue-eyed Grass
Bright blue star-shaped flowers with a gold center appear from May until July close above the Iris-like foliage on this charming native. Not too tall at **8"**, the 3/4" flowers look sweet as edging or in the rock garden. While tolerant of partial shade, Blue-eyed Grass prefers full sun and moist well-drained soil.
Plant 12" apart.

Zones 5 - 8



Stachys byzantina
Lamb's Ear
You have to be charmed by the woolly and soft silvery white leaves of this strong growing ground cover at **6-8"** in height. Its insignificant lavender flowers appear in July on 18" spikes which many gardeners simply remove to keep the plant tidy. You'll find it combines effectively with almost any color in the entire spectrum.
Plant 20" apart.

Zones 5 - 9



Stachys byzantina 'Helene von Stein'
Lamb's Ear or Big Ears
The larger, vigorous, woolly gray leaves of this variety are effective massed in the foreground of a bed or as edging. It resists languishing in our humid weather, seldom flowers, and at **10"** in height, is a strong clump grower that can form a 3' wide plant in 2 years. Does best in poor, very well-drained soil. **Plant 20" apart.**

Zones 4 - 9



Stachys byzantina 'Silver Carpet'
Lamb's Ear
Same delightful velvety silver leaves as other byzantinas that invite touching (children love it), but a non-flowering, low-maintenance form. Try it with other drought-lovers such as Lavender 'Autumn Joy', and Dianthus 'Firewitch'.
Plant 20" apart

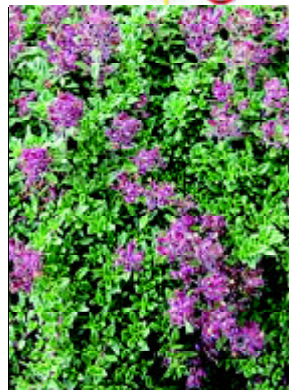
Zones 5 - 9



Thymus pseudolanuginosus
Woolly Thyme
This is a low mat forming perennial growing to a height of **2-3"** with tiny felted gray leaves. It prefers light, well-drained soil and works well between stepping-stones or in a rock garden. Have insignificant pale pink blooms.
Plant 6" apart.



Zones 6 - 11



Thymus serpyllum 'Coccineus'
Red Flowering Mother of Thyme
Tiny glossy green leaves are mat forming at **3"**. This groundcover is perfect for rock, trough, and alpine gardens, works between pavers, and has rosy-purple flowers in mid-summer. Excellent drainage and lots of sun are a must. Too much rain can be detrimental; water has a hard time evaporating from the leaves causing fast rot.
Plant 6" apart



Zones 5 - 9



Tiarella cordifolia 'Brandywine'
Foam Flower
The puffy, tiny white flowers are carried on short spikes on the **8"** stems of this local native Tiarella that is an ideal spreading ground cover for shade. Tiarellas have dark green, quite evergreen leaves that vary in leaf shape and coloration according to variety. 'Brandywine' has just a bit of burgundy veination on its leaves and blooms white in April and May. **Plant 18" apart**

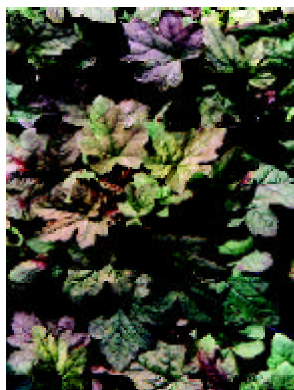
Zones 5 - 9



Tiarella cordifolia 'Elizabeth Oliver'
Foam Flower
The deeply lobed leaves are bright green with faint burgundy veination. As the cooler days of early October arrive, the leaves take on a rich purple hue. Height **8-10"**. This vigorous grower for the woodland or shade garden is another native of the eastern U.S. that will make a great groundcover. **Plant 18" apart.**

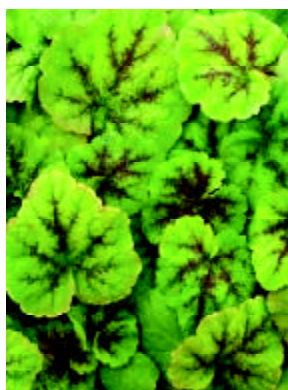
Zones 4 - 8

Ground Covers (continued)



Tiarella cordifolia 'Oakleaf' Foam Flower
 As its name implies, native 'Oakleaf' has dark green leaves that are lobed with a serrated edge like those of the tree, and grow in dense, fast-growing clumps. The flowers on their little spikes are a deep pink and are very profuse in May to a height of 8-10". Try Tiarellas with Ajuga, Epimedium, or ferns for variety in form and texture. **Plant 18" apart.**

Zones 4 - 8 ☀️ 🌙 🦋 🚫 🏠



Tiarella cordifolia 'Running Tapestry' Foam Flower
 Woodland gardeners with large areas to cover would do well to consider this fast-spreading ground cover. Best of all is the lovely burgundy marbling, which radiates from the midrib outward throughout each leaf. The masses of white Foam Flowers are 12" above the foliage and make a splash through the woods. **Plant 18" apart.**

Zones 4 - 8 ☀️ 🌙 🦋 🚫 🏠



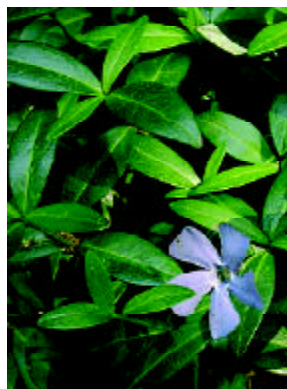
Tiarella x 'Black Snowflake' Foam Flower
 From the center of each leaf, the radiating deeply cut leaf sections make each leaf truly look like a snowflake. Topped with pink foam flowers in April and May at 12", expect the evergreen foliage height to reach about 8". This is a stunning Tiarella. PP#13684. **Plant 18" apart.**

Zones 4 - 8 ☀️ 🌙 🦋 🚫 🏠



Veronica peduncularis 'Georgia Blue'
 Dainty, little round sky-blue flowers in low mounds in April and May are a sweet alternative to traditional Veronica spikes. At 12" it makes a great ground cover in full sun with good drainage. Don't be deceived by its name; this hardy perennial derives from the former Soviet state, not our own southern one of the same name. **Plant 18" apart.**

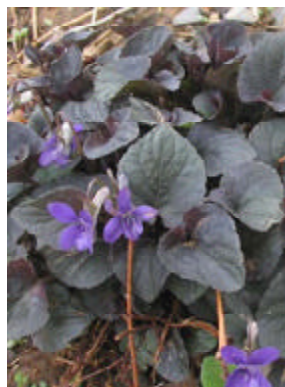
Zones 5 - 8 ☀️ 🌙 🦋 ✂️ 🚫 🏠



Vinca minor Myrtle
 Glossy-green 1 1/2" x 1 1/2" leaves on trailing vines. 1/2"-3/4" blue-violet flowers appear in early spring. Moderate growth rate. **Height: 3-6"**
Spacing 8-12"



Zones 4 - 9 ☀️ 🌙 🦋 🚫



Viola labradorica Labrador Violet
 Dark bronzy-purple leaves show off the classic violet-purple flowers at 6" in April-May. If provided some shade and moisture it will spread effectively by self-sowing even in the South. It will flourish in the wildflower or alpine garden; and make an excellent filler in the front of the border, or for the rock garden. **Plant 15" apart.**



Zones 3 - 8 ☀️ 🏠