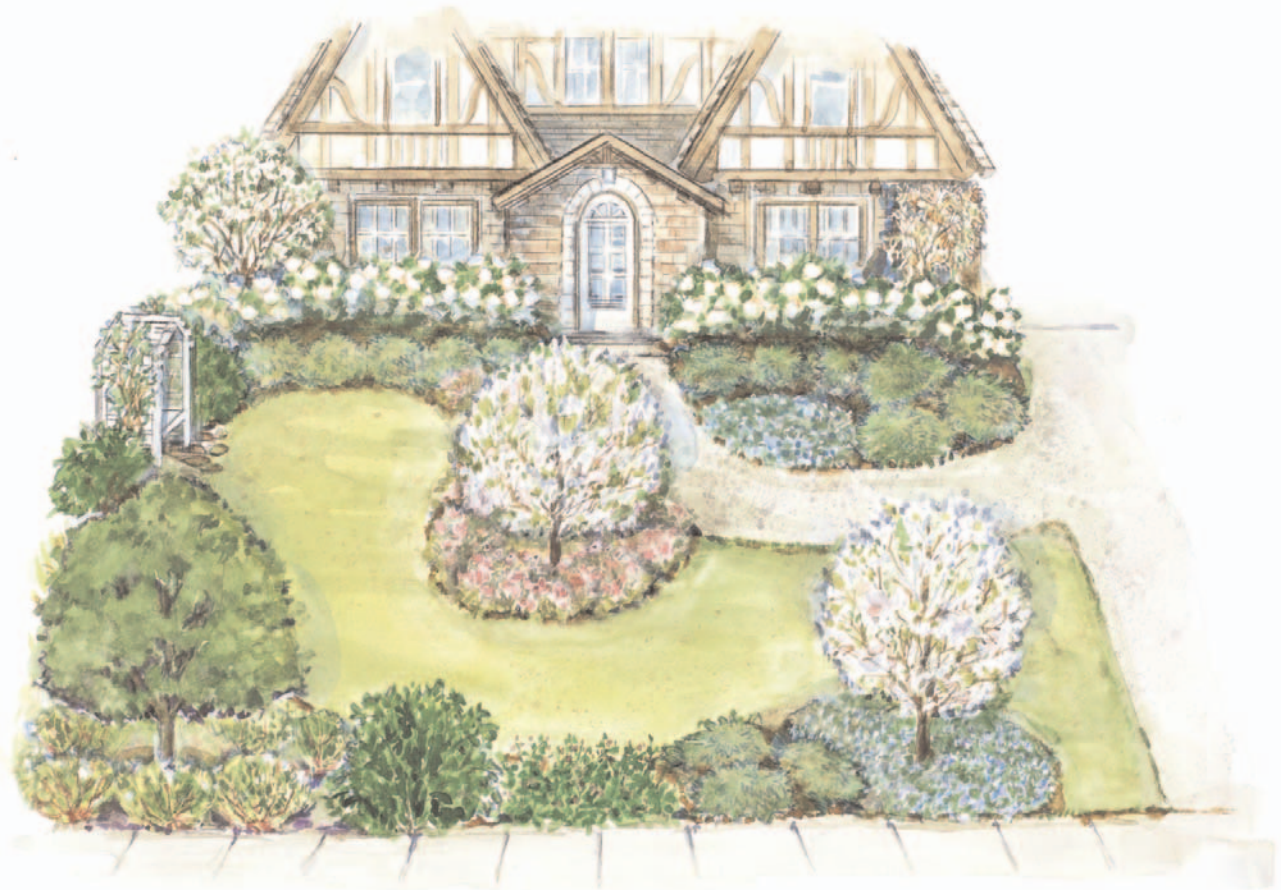


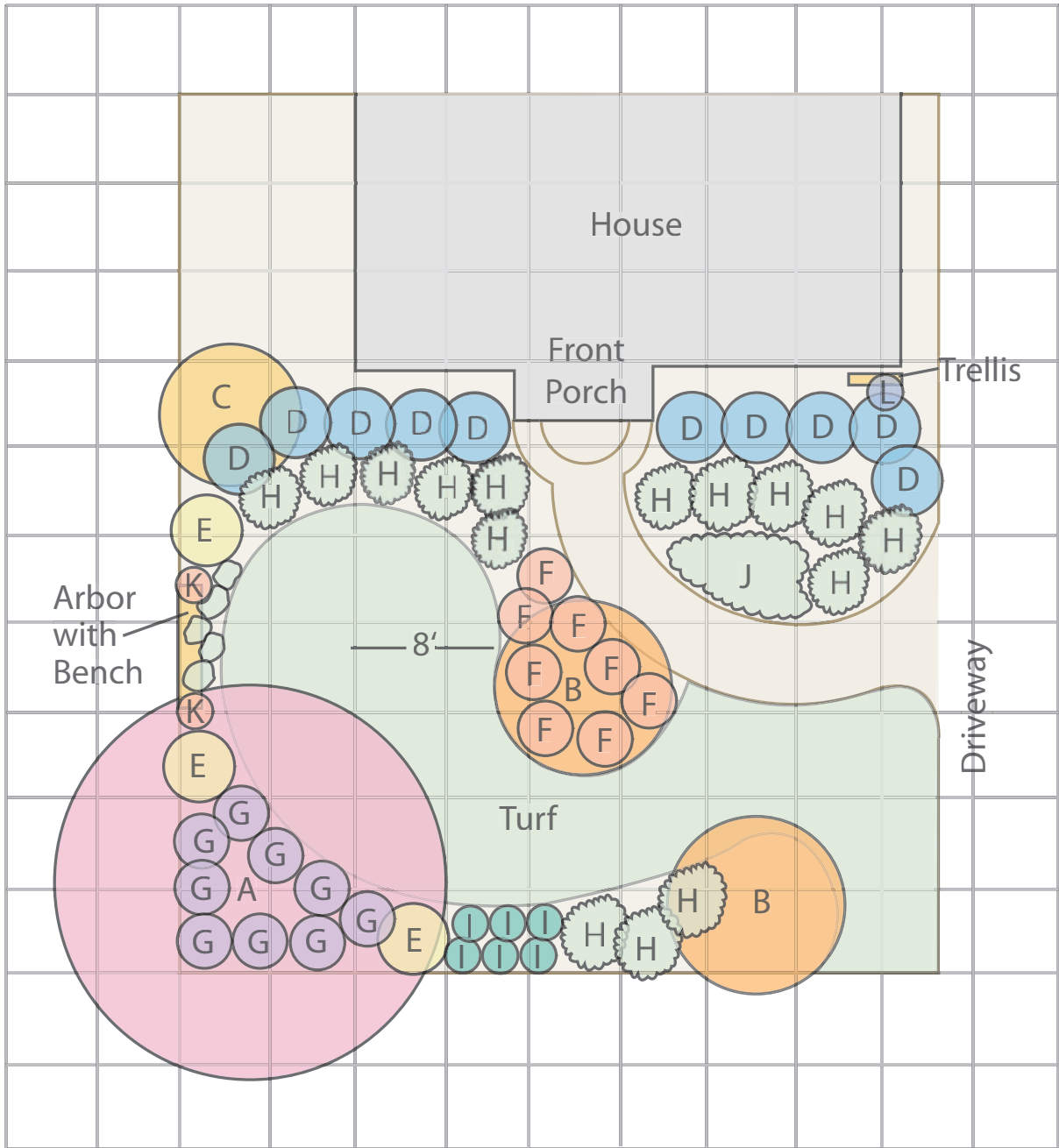
LANDSCAPE PLANS



Small Front Yard

A front yard should be welcoming and offer seasonal color. In this design, the yard is cozy yet still provides space for outdoor living.

There is a trellised sitting area, but the open area in the yard could have willow chairs or another seating arrangement with tables. Lighting can be added along the walk, or line the edge of the garden border. Lights at the base of the trees would add a measure of drama at night.



1 square = 5 feet

Key to Planting Plan

This garden plan has been designed for maximum flexibility. The base plan includes general recommendations for plant types. This allows you to select trees, shrubs, and other plants that are suited to your location and your personal preferences. We have also included a set of suggested varieties for five regions. See below for more details.

Note: Dimensions are approximate mature height.

A Medium to large shade tree, preferably oval or pyramidal form, 1

B Ornamental tree in 10 – 20' range, flowering or foliage interest, 2

C Deciduous or evergreen shrub, upright form, 1

D Flowering shrub or interesting evergreen 4-5' tall, 10

E Flowering shrub, upright and noticeable 3-6', 3

F Flowering and low-growing shrub, similar to a ground cover, 8

G Shade-tolerant low-growing deciduous or evergreen shrub, 9

H Low-growing evergreen or interesting deciduous that will show in all seasons, 15

I 24-30" perennial for seasonal color

J Ground cover

K Vine

L Vine

Plant Recommendations by Region

The plants suggested below are arranged by general region of the country. Use the map as a general guide to the plant lists that might be best suited to your location. Because climate can vary substantially within each region, we suggest that you verify your plant choices with a local nursery or garden center professional. If a particular variety we list is not available in your area, your garden professional should be able to suggest a substitute.



MIDWEST

A Acer rubrum 'Franksred' (*Red Sunset Maple*) 50', upright, dense with bright red fall color; Zones 4-6

ALTERNATE PLANTS

Betula nigra 'Heritage' (*Heritage River Birch*) 45', light exfoliating bark, yellow fall color, tolerates poor soil; Zones 4-8

Tilia cordata (*Littleleaf Linden*) 50', pyramidal form, fragrant blooms in June, heart-shaped leaves; Zones 4-7

B Malus 'Lanzam' (*Lancelot Crab*) 8-10' upright, snow white blooms from red buds, gold fruit; Zones 4-7

ALTERNATE PLANTS

Crataegus laevigata 'Superba' (*Crimson Cloud Hawthorn*) 15'x10-15', thornless, single bright red flowers, red fruit in winter; Zones 4-7

Prunus nigra 'Princess Kay' (*Princess Kay Plum*) 15'x10', double white blossoms in spring, dark bark; Zones 2-6

C Viburnum lentago (*Nannyberry Viburnum*) 20'x6', vase shaped and airy in appearance, white flowers in spring, blue-black fruit; Zones 2-8

ALTERNATE PLANTS

Amelanchier canadensis 'Rainbow Pillar' (*Rainbow Pillar Serviceberry*) 16'x6', white blooms in spring, red-orange fall color, purple fruit; Zones 3-8

Hamamelis vernalis (*Vernal Witchhazel*) 10', upright rounded, yellow to orange fragrant flowers in very early spring; Zones 5-8

D Hydrangea arborescens 'Annabelle' (*Annabelle Hydrangea*) 4', large white clusters much of the summer; Zones 4-9

ALTERNATE PLANTS

Hydrangea macrophylla 'Endless Summer' (*Endless Summer Hydrangea*) 5', similar to 'Annabelle' except larger and blooms on both old and new wood; Zones 4-9

Taxus media (*Spreading Yew*) 3', dark green needles, soft evergreen; Zones 4-8

E Aronia melanocarpa 'Autumn Magic' (*Autumn Magic Black Chokeberry*) 3-5', upright, dark green leaves turn red-purple in fall, black fruit hangs on into winter; Zones 3-7

ALTERNATE PLANTS

Syringa meyeri 'Palibin' (*Dwarf Korean Lilac*) 3-5', fragrant lilac blooms in spring, blooms at an early age, tinged red in fall; Zones 4-7

Weigela florida 'Alexandra' (*Wine and Roses Weigela*) 4', rounded, burgundy leaves, rose flowers; Zones 5-8

F Spirea japonica 'Magic Carpet' (*Magic Carpet Spirea*) 18", compact habit, light green foliage, red shoots, deep pink flowers; Zones 4-8

ALTERNATE PLANTS

Daphne alpine 'Daphne' (*Daphne Spirea*) 18", mounded, green foliage, pink flowers; Zones 4-7

Rhus aromatica 'Gro-Low' (*Dwarf fragrant sumac*) 2', fragrant yellow flowers in spring, red fall color, red fuzzy fruit

G Cornus sericea 'Kelsey' (*Kelsey Dwarf Dogwood*) 2-3', mounded, red twigs, white flowers; Zones 4-8

ALTERNATE PLANTS

Buxus microphylla 'Wintergreen' (*Littleleaf Boxwood*) 2-3', bright green, fragrant flowers in April, copper winter color; Zones 4-9

Cotoneaster apiculatus (*Cranberry Cotoneaster*) 2-3', mounded shrub with recurving branches, bright red berries through winter, pink flowers in June, and dark green shiny leaves; Zones 5-7

H Juniperus sabina 'Arcadia' (*Arcadia Juniper*) 12-18", rich green, lacy foliage; Zones 3-7

ALTERNATE PLANTS

Juniperus sabina 'Buffalo' (*Buffalo Juniper*) 15", bright green feather foliage, low spreading; Zones 3-7

Rosa 'China Doll' (*China Doll Rose*) 18"x30", fragrant double pink flowers all summer; Zones 4-6

I Echinacea purpurea 'Kim's Knee High' (*Dwarf Purple Coneflower*) 18-24", rose petals with prominent center cone; Zones 3-8

ALTERNATE PLANTS

Hemerocallis 'Ed Murray' (*Daylily*) 30", velvety red-black flowers with green throat, high bud count; Zones 3-9

Rudbeckia triloba (*Brown-eyed Susan*) 2-3', golden yellow petals with brown cones; Zones 3-9

J Vinca minor 'Ralph Shugurt' (*Periwinkle*) Ground cover, shiny green leaves are edged white, blue flowers in spring; Zones 4-9

ALTERNATE PLANTS

Nepeta 'Blue Wonder' (*Catmint*) 12-15", gray-green foliage, blue flowers in early summer; Zones 3-8

Aegopodium maculatum (*Bishop's Goutweed*) 15-18", ground cover, green and white foliage; Zones 3-8

K Clematis ternifolia (*Sweet Autumn Clematis*) Vine, tiny fragrant white flowers from August to October; Zones 3-9

ALTERNATE PLANTS

Clematis 'Mme Edouard Andre' (*Clematis*) Vine, large deep velvet red flowers with cream anthers during July and August; Zones 3-9

Polygonum aubertii (*Silver Fleecevine*) Vigorous climber with bright green foliage, white flowers in late summer and fall; Zones 5-7

L Parthenocissus quinquefolia 'Variegata' (*Variegated Virginia Creeper*) 6-8' vine, young foliage is tinged pink and cream, hot pink fall color; Zones 3-8

ALTERNATE PLANTS

Aristolochia durior (*Dutchman's Pipe*) Vine, dark green heart-shaped to rounded leaves, flower resembles a pipe; Zones 4-8

Wisteria macrostachya 'Aunt Dee' (*Wisteria*) Twining vine needing support, light purple slightly fragrant flowers in 7-12" clusters in spring; Zones 5-9

NORTHWEST

A Acer rubrum 'October Glory' (*October Glory Maple*) 50-60', upright rounded form, pale gray bark, crimson flowers in later March, bright red fall color; Zones 3-8

ALTERNATE PLANTS

Alnus rubra (*Red or Oregon Alder*) 60-80', long dark green leaves, gray-white bark, reddish buds and male catkins, fast growing but short lived; Zones 4-7

Betula occidentalis (*American Red Birch*) 30', dark green and slightly hairy leaves, native; Zones 4-8

B Cercis occidentalis (*Western Redbud*) 15-25', vase shaped, pink flowers in spring, blue-green rounded leaves; Zones 6-10

ALTERNATE PLANTS

Acer palmatum (*Japanese Maple*) 15-25', rounded habit, green or maroon finely cut foliage, beautiful winter bark; Zones 5-8

Cornus kousa chinensis (*Kousa Dogwood*) 20' depending on variety, vase-shaped form, creamy flower bracts, pink to red showy fruit, broad leaves; Zones 5-8

C Ilex verticillata (*Winterberry*) 8', white clustered flowers, bright red fruit persisting into winter, deep green foliage; Zones 3-9

ALTERNATE PLANTS

Amelanchier arborea (*Downy Serviceberry*) 10', multistemmed, white flowers in early spring, berries that mature to purple, yellow to red fall color; Zones 3-10

Sambucus nigra 'Guincho Purpurea' (*Black Elderberry*) 10', pinkish flowers with purple foliage; Zones 4-7

D Hydrangea macrophylla 'Mareisii' (*Lacecap Hydrangea*) 4-5', pink or mauve pink flowers, fast growing with rounded form; Zones 5-9

ALTERNATE PLANTS

Rhododendron kiusianum (*Rhododendron*) 3', semi-evergreen, dense habit, colors range from white and red to purple, flowers in late May-June; Zones 5-9

Buxus microphylla 'Winter Beauty' (*Littleleaf Boxwood*) 3-4', mounded form, evergreen, medium green turning copper colored in winter; Zones 5-9

E Aronia arbutifolia (*Red Chokeberry*) 6', vase shaped, white flowers in spring, red fruit into winter, deep green leaves turn red in fall; Zones 5-9

ALTERNATE PLANTS

Syringa meyeri 'Palibin' (*Dwarf Korean Lilac*) 3-5', fragrant lilac blooms in spring; Zones 4-7

Weigela florida 'Red Prince' (*Weigela*) 5' upright, recurrent red flowers; Zones 4-9

F Spirea japonica 'Magic Carpet' (*Japanese Spirea*) 18", compact habit, red shoots, pink flowers; Zones 3-8

ALTERNATE PLANTS

Calluna vulgaris (*Scotch Heather*) 6-24", small evergreen that forms mat-like covering, rose to pink blooms, green foliage turns bronze in winter; Zones 4-7(8)

Daboecia cantabrica (*Irish Heath*) 12-20", evergreen, rose-purple flowers all summer; Zones 4-8

G Rhododendron impeditum (*Cloudland Rhododendron*) 2', reddish purple flowers, dark green evergreen foliage is reddish purple in winter; Zones 5-9

ALTERNATE PLANTS

Cornus sericea 'Kelsey' (*Kelsey Dwarf Dogwood*) 2-3' mounded, red twigs, white flowers; Zones 2-7

Gaultheria procumbens (*Creeping Wintergreen*) 6", low growing, creeping evergreen, leaves turn reddish in winter; Zones 3- 5(6)

H Ledum groenlandicum (*Labrador Tea*) 2-4', dwarf evergreen shrub, dark green with white or rust hairs underneath, white flowers May through June; Zones 2-5

ALTERNATE PLANTS

Juniperus squamata 'Prostrata' (*Flaky Juniper*) 12", slow growing, green with bluish white bands; Zones 4-7(8)

Rhododendron impeditum (*Cloudland Rhododendron*) 2', reddish purple flowers, dark green evergreen foliage is reddish purple in winter; Zones 5-9

I Sedum 'Purple Emperor' (*Stonecrop*) 2', dusky purple foliage with mauve flowers; Zones 3-8

ALTERNATE PLANTS

Echinacea purpurea 'Bright Star' (*Purple Coneflower*) 24-36" rose with maroon cone; Zones 3-8

Lavandula stoechas 'Otto Quast' (*Spanish or French Lavender*) 24-30", purple flowers; Zones 5-8

J Vinca minor 'Ralph Shugurt' (*Periwinkle*) Ground cover with shiny green leaves edged in white, blue flowers in spring; Zones 4-8

ALTERNATE PLANTS

Athyrium niponicum (*Japanese Painted Fern*) 12-18", gray, green, and red variegated fronds; Zones 3-9

Dryopteris erythrosora 'Autumn Fern' (*Autumn Fern*) 18-24", pink fiddles, coppery growth matures green; Zones 4-8

K Jasminum stephanense (*Jasmine*) Twining to 15', pink flowers; Zones 6-10

ALTERNATE PLANTS

Clematis ternifolia (*Sweet Autumn clematis*) Vine, clouds of fragrant white flowers July-October; Zones 4-9

Clematis 'Jackmani' (*Jackman Clematis*) Vine, deep purple flowers in summer; Zones 4-9

L Hydrangea anomala petiolaris (*Climbing Hydrangea*) clinging vine, white flowers in late June to July; Zones 5-8

ALTERNATE PLANTS

Parthenocissus quinquefolia 'Variegata' (*Variegated Virginia Creeper*) 6-8' vine, young foliage is tinged pink and cream, hot pink fall color; Zones 3-8

Asarina scandens 'Joan Lorraine' (*Trailing Snapdragon*) Vine, purple flowers; Zones 5-8

NORTHEAST

A *Acer saccharum* (*Sugar Maple*) 75', oval form, green foliage turns bright yellow to red in fall; Zones 3-5

ALTERNATE PLANTS

A *Acer rubrum* (*Red Maple*) 40-60', oval to rounded, leaves emerge tinged red, turn green and then bright yellow to red in fall; Zones 4-6

C *Celtis occidentalis* (*Hackberry*) 40-60', arching branches, dull green leaves are bright yellow in fall; Zones 2-7

B *Cornus florida* (*Flowering Dogwood*) 20', white, pink, or red blooms, red fruit, reddish purple fall color; Zones 5-9

ALTERNATE PLANTS

M *Malus 'Lanzam'* (*Lancelot Crab*) 8-10', upright, snowy white flowers from red buds, gold fruit; Zones 4-7

M *Malus 'Bridal Bouquet'* (*Bridal Bouquet Crab*) 18', a Princeton intro, rounded, double white flowers, few fruits; Zones 3-7

C *Lindera benzoin* (*Spicebush*) 6-12', rounded and open habit, yellow flowers, golden fall color, scarlet fruit; Zones 4-9

ALTERNATE PLANTS

V *Viburnum lentago* (*Nannyberry Viburnum*) 20'x6', vase shape, white flowers, blue-black fruit, airy appearance; Zones 2-8

C *Cornus amomum* (*Silky Dogwood*) 6-10', multistemmed, reddish purple branches, yellowish white flowers, porcelain blue fruit; Zones 4-8

D *Hydrangea arborescens 'Annabelle'* (*Annabelle Hydrangea*) 4', large white flowers much of the summer; Zones 4-8

ALTERNATE PLANTS

T *Taxus cuspidate 'Densa'* or **'Dark Green Spreader'** (*Japanese Yew*) 4', dark green evergreen; Zones 4-8

S *Syringa meyeri 'Palibin'* (*Dwarf Korean Lilac*) 3-5', fragrant lilac flowers in spring; Zones 4-7

E *Aronia melanocarpa 'Autumn Magic'* (*Autumn Magic Chokeberry*) 3-5', upright, dark green leaves turn red in fall, white flowers, persistent black fruit; Zones 3-8

ALTERNATE PLANTS

A *Aronia arbutifolia* (*Red Chokeberry*) 6', upright, deep green foliage turns red in fall, white flowers in spring, red fruit into winter; Zones 5-8

I *Ilex glabra 'Nordic'* or **'Chamzin'** (*Inkberry*) 4', compact and rounded, deep green through winter, creamy flowers in spring; Zones 5-9

F *Vaccinium angustifolium* (*Lowbush Blueberry*) 6-24", dark blue-green foliage turns scarlet in fall, blue fruit; Zones 2-6

ALTERNATE PLANTS

S *Spirea japonica 'Magic Carpet'* (*Magic Carpet Spirea*) 18", compact, light foliage, red shoots, pink flowers; Zones 4-8

R *Rosa 'China Doll'* (*China Doll Rose*) 18", double pink flowers all summer, fragrant; Zones 4-6

G *Symphoricarpos orbiculatus* (*Indiancurrant Coralberry*) 2-5', arching branches, pinkish flowers in early summer, purplish red fruit through winter; Zones 4-7

ALTERNATE PLANTS

S *Symphoricarpos albus* (*Common Snowberry*) 3-6', bushy and rounded, tends to colonize, pinkish fruit in early summer, white fruit into winter; Zones 3-7

C *Cornus sericea 'Kelsey'* (*Kelsey Dwarf Dogwood*) 2-3', mounded, red twigs, white flowers; Zones 3-7

H *Juniperus horizontalis 'Plumosa Compacta'* (*Creeping Juniper*) 18", flat spreading and dense branches, gray-green foliage turning light purple in winter; Zones 3-7

ALTERNATE PLANTS

C *Cotoneaster horizontalis* (*Rockspray Cotoneaster*) 2-3', spreading with horizontally spreading branches, pink flowers, red fruit into winter; Zones 4-7

J *Juniperus sabina 'Arcadia'* (*Arcadia Juniper*) 12-18", rich green, lacy evergreen; Zones 3-7

I *Hemerocallis* (*Daylily*) 20-30", durable summer bloomers in a wide range of colors; Zones 3-9

ALTERNATE PLANTS

R *Rudbeckia hirta* (*Black-eyed Susan*) 1-2', golden petals with a dark brown center; Zones 3-9

N *Nepeta subsessilis* (*Catmint*) 15-28", long-blooming deep blue flower clusters, fragrant green leaves; Zones 3-8

J *Lamium galeobdolon 'Herman's Pride'* (*Yellow Archangel*) 12", yellow flowers in spring, silver and green foliage; Zones 4-10

ALTERNATE PLANTS

G *Gentiana dahurica* (*Gentian*) 8", deep blue flowers in late summer; Zones 4-8

V *Vinca minor 'Ralph Shugurt'* (*Periwinkle*) Ground cover, shiny green foliage, blue flowers in spring; Zones 4-9

K *Campsis radicans* (*Trumpet Vine*) Vine, orange and scarlet flowers, shiny dark green foliage; Zones 4-9

ALTERNATE PLANTS

C *Clematis ternifolia* (*Sweet Autumn Clematis*) Vine, clouds of fragrant white flowers July-October; Zones 3-9

P *Parthenocissus quinquefolia* (*Virginia Creeper*) Deciduous vine, serrated leaves turn red in fall; Zones 3-8

L *Parthenocissus quinquefolia 'Variegata'* (*Variegated Virginia Creeper*) 6-8', vine, young foliage is tinged pink and cream, hot pink fall color; Zones 3-8

ALTERNATE PLANTS

P *Parthenocissus tricuspidata 'Fenway Park'* (*Boston Ivy*) Yellow foliage that turns green in summer and red in fall; Zones 5-9

H *Hydrangea anomala petiolaris* (*Climbing Hydrangea*) Climbing vine, white flowers in late June to July; Zones 5-8

SOUTHWEST

A *Catalpa speciosa* (Western Catalpa) 40', upright and narrow habit, ruffled white flowers in early summer, broad green leaves; Zones 4-7

ALTERNATE PLANTS

***Celtis occidentalis* (Common Hackberry)** 40', upright form, dull green leaves turn bright yellow in fall; Zones 2-7

***Fraxinus texensis* (Texas Ash)** 50', 5-7 leaflets are green turning red, gold, and purple in fall, winged samaras as fruit; Zones 6-9

B *Cercis occidentalis* (Western Redbud) 16', deep pink flowers in spring, rounded green leaves; Zones 7-9

ALTERNATE PLANTS

***Cercis reniformis* (Oklahoma Redbud)** 12-18', purple red flowers in spring, purple foliage in fall; Zones 7-9

***Koelreuteria bipinnata* (Chinese Flametree)** 20', fragrant yellow flowers, pink fruit; Zones 6-8

C *Amorpha fruticosa* (False Indigo) 4-10', purple blue flowers, pod fruit, leaves turn yellow in fall; Zones 4-9

ALTERNATE PLANTS

***Hibiscus syriacus* (Rose of Sharon)** 8-12', upright form, large white, red, or purple flowers July through September; Zones 5-10

***Kolkwitzia amabilis* (Beautybush)** 6-10', upright and arching, pink flowers in spring, gray bark, persistent capsuled seeds; Zones 5-10

D *Philadelphus microphyllus* (Littleleaf Mockorange) 3-4', dark green leaves, pure white and very fragrant white flowers; Zones 6-9

ALTERNATE PLANTS

***Buddleia davidii nanhoensis* (Dwarf Butterfly Bush)** 3-5', fragrant magenta-purple to mauve flowers, gray green foliage; Zones (5)6-9

***Lonicera fragrantissima* (Winter Honeysuckle)** 5', slender recurving branches, creamy white-tinged pink flowers are extremely fragrant, dark red fruit seldom seen; Zones 4-8(9)

E *Rosa woodsii* (Woods' Rose) 4', native, pink flowers in summer; Zones 5-9

ALTERNATE PLANTS

***Cotoneaster apiculatus* (Cranberry Cotoneaster)** 3', dark green glossy leaves, pink flowers, cranberry red fruit in fall; Zones 5-7

***Fendlera rupicola* (False Mockorange)** 6', pure white flowers, narrow thick foliage; Zones 6-9

F *Caryopteris x clandonensis* (Blue-Mist Shrub) To 2', low mounded habit, bright blue flowers in late summer; Zones 5-9

ALTERNATE PLANTS

***Berberis thunbergii* 'Crimson Pygmy' (Crimson Pygmy Barberry)** 1-2', rounded, dark maroon foliage; Zones 4-7

***Salvia greggii* (Cherry Sage)** To 3', reddish spiked flowers, treat as shrub or perennial; Zones 3-9

G *Berberis thunbergii* var. *atropurpurea* 'intermedia' (Japanese Barberry) 3', reddish purple foliage; Zones 5-9

ALTERNATE PLANTS

***Anisacanthus thurberi* (Desert Honeysuckle)** 3-5', pink flowers, perennial or shrub; Zones 6-9

***Cotoneaster horizontalis* (Rockspray Cotoneaster)** 2-3', horizontal branching, pink flowers in early summer, red fruit into winter; Zones 4-7

H *Rhus triloba* 'Autumn Amber' (Skunkbush) 12-18", prostrate habit, dark green leaves, bright yellow and red in fall; Zones 4-6

ALTERNATE PLANTS

***Artemisia cana* (Silver Sage)** 18", silver upright branches and foliage; Zones 3-9

***Arctostaphylos uva ursi* (Kinnikinnick)** 6-24", spreading, glossy evergreen foliage, green in summer and bronze red in fall and winter; Zones 3-6

I *Liatris spicata* (Gayfeather) 12-36", rose spikes in summer; Zones 3-9

ALTERNATE PLANTS

***Salvia officinalis* (Garden Sage)** 24", purple blue spikes in early summer; Zones 4-9

***Gaillardia grandiflora* (Gaillardia)** 12-24", yellow, orange or red daisy-like flowers; Zones 2-10

J *Anacyclus depressus* (Mat Daisy) 3-12", white flowers all summer; Zones 5-9

ALTERNATE PLANTS

***Sedum spurium* (Dragon's Blood Sedum)** 2-6" red flowers and red-green foliage; Zones 3-8

***Thymus serpyllum* (Creeping Thyme)** 2-12", fragrant ground cover with pinkish red flowers; Zones 4-9

K and L *Jasminum nudiflorum* (Winter Jasmine) 10-15' if trained, yellow flowers in winter, deep green foliage; Zones 6-10

SOUTHEAST

A Diospyros virginiana (*Common Persimmon*) 35-60', white to green-white fragrant blooms, edible yellowish fruit, dark green and lustrous foliage; Zones 4-9

ALTERNATE PLANTS

Koelreuteria paniculata (*Golden Raintree*) 30-40', yellow panicles of flowers, purplish red foliage matures green; Zones 5-9

Quercus falcata var. pagodifolia (*Cherry Oak*) 60' rounded form, copper fall color; Zones 6-8b

B Vitex agnus-castus (*Chastetree*) 10-15', lilac flowers from June-September, palmate to lanceolate foliage; Zones (6)7-8(9)

ALTERNATE PLANTS

Citrus spp. (*Citrus*) Varies in height, try mandarins, tangelos, and kumquat; Zones 8-10

Eriobotrya japonica (*Loquat*) 15', fragrant off white flowers, narrow oval foliage; Zones (7)8-10

C Nerium oleander (*Oleander*) 6-12', upright rounded evergreen, white flowers; Zones 8-11

ALTERNATE PLANTS

Ilex vomitoria (*Yaupon Holly*) 15', evergreen with purple tinge, red fruit in fall; Zones 7-10

Myrtis communis (*Myrtle*) 10', pink buds open to fragrant white blooms, dense evergreen; Zones (8)-9-10

D Abelia x grandiflora (*Glossy Abelia*) 3-6', dense rounded form, dark green foliage, white-tinged pink flowers; Zones (5)6-9

ALTERNATE PLANTS

Callicarpa japonica (*Japanese Beautybush*) 4-6', pink or white flowers, metallic purple fruit, blue-green foliage; Zones 5-8

Ilex vomitoria 'Nana' (*Dwarf Yaupon Holly*) 4' if pruned, rounded and dense evergreen; Zones 7-10

E Rhampholepis umbellata 'Enchantress' (*Indian Hawthorn*) 3', rose-pink flowers in large panicles from late winter to early summer; Zones 6-8

ALTERNATE PLANTS

Yucca spp. (*Yucca*) sword-like foliage with ivory panicle of flowers in summer; Zones 4-8b

Berberis candidula (*Paleleaf Barberry*) 4', dark green foliage may develop bronze tint in fall, bright yellow flowers, purple fruit; Zones 6-8

F Rosmarinus officinalis 'Prostratus' (*Rosemary*) 18", prostrate pink-red flowers, gray-green needle-like foliage; Zones 5-8

ALTERNATE PLANTS

Hypericum prolificum (*St. Johnswort*) 1-4', dark green foliage, bright yellow summer flowers; Zones 6-8

Pavonia lasiopetala (*Rock Rose*) 2-3', pink summer blooms; Zones 6-8

G Hypericum prolificum (*St. Johnswort*) 1-4', dark green foliage, bright yellow summer flowers; Zones 6-8

ALTERNATE PLANTS

Buxus 'Green Velvet' (*Boxwood*) 3-4', rounded, dark green leaves; Zones 5-9

Liriope muscari (*Turf Lily*) 12-18" narrow leaves with lilac-purple flowers in late summer; Zones 5-8

H Juniperus chinensis 'Turquoise Spreader' (*Creeping Juniper*) 12", soft feathery branchlets are turquoise with lavender tips; Zones 4-8

ALTERNATE PLANTS

Juniperus sabina 'Arcadia' (*Savin Juniper*) 18", bright green layered branches; Zones 4-8

Abelia x grandiflora 'Confetti' (*Confetti Glossy Abelia*) 18-24", variegated foliage turns rose in winter, white flowers (5)6-9

I Zephyranthes ssp. (*Zephyr Lily*) 15", summer -blooming bulbs of pink and white; Zones 6-8

ALTERNATE PLANTS

Salvia farinacea (*Mealy Cup Sage*) 24", light blue or white spring-fall; Zones 5-8

Echinacea purpurea (*Purple Coneflower*) 30-36", rose petals with a prominent cone; Zones 3-9

J Liriope muscari (*Turf Lily*) 12-18", narrow leaves with lilac-purple flowers in late summer; Zones 5-9

ALTERNATE PLANTS

Sedum acre (*Stonecrop*) 2-3", yellow spring flowers, light green foliage, develops carpet effect; Zones 4-8

Hedera helix (*English Ivy*) 6-8", dark green with whitish veins, black fruit; Zones 5-8

K Gelsemium sempervirens (*Carolina Jessamine*) Evergreen vine with clusters of fragrant yellow flowers in late winter; Zones 6-8

ALTERNATE PLANTS

Wisteria macrostachya 'Aunt Dee' (*Wisteria*) Twining vine, needs support, light purple and slightly fragrant flowers in large clusters; Zones 5-8

Tecomaria capensis (*Cape Honeysuckle*) Orange, red, or yellow flowers attract hummingbirds; Zones 6-10

L Tecomaria capensis (*Cape honeysuckle*) Orange, red, or yellow flowers attract hummingbirds; Zones 6-10

ALTERNATE PLANTS

Campsis radicans (*Trumpet Vine*) Spring and summer orange blooms, grows quickly; Zones 6-8

Bougainvillea spectabilis (*Bougainvillea*) Many colors, may freeze at top; Zones 6-8

Before You Begin. Preparation is the key to creating a garden that will offer a lifetime of pleasure. Before you head to the nursery or lift a spade, take the time to review all garden plan materials. Ask yourself the following questions:

- **Do I have a suitable location for this plan?** The layout diagram shows the dimensions for the plan as designed. In general, you can enlarge or reduce the size of the garden by adding or eliminating plants, although the character of the garden may change if you alter the size dramatically.
- **Does my yard offer the right conditions?** Check the plant list carefully to see whether the plan will do best in full sun, partial shade, or full shade. Also make sure that the plants are suited to your USDA Growing Zone. (In many cases, the alternative plants list includes varieties that will grow in other zones.)
- **Does my soil need improvement?** Most plants will survive in a variety of soil conditions, but well-drained, moist (but not soaked) soil is generally best. To test your soil, wet it thoroughly with a hose, wait 24 hours, then squeeze a clump in your hand. If the soil forms a ball that holds together, but breaks up easily when you poke it with your finger, your soil is ideal. If the soil won't hold its shape when squeezed, it is probably too sandy. If the clump doesn't break up easily, the soil may be too clay. In either case, you can improve your soil by mixing in organic matter like compost or peat moss.
- **Is my soil's pH and fertility okay?** Check at your local garden store for a soil test kit, or inquire about testing at a local county extension service office. Follow the recommendations that come with your test results if you need to correct the soil's pH (how acid or alkaline the soil is) or fertility.

Creating the Bed. To lay out your bed, use a garden hose to mark the edges. When you are satisfied with the layout, use striping paint (available at many home centers) to mark the outline. (Or, sprinkle flour along the hose for a more temporary mark.) Using a sharp spade, dig along the marked line to set the edge of your bed.

If the garden location is currently covered with lawn, you have a couple of options. For smaller areas, you can strip the sod using a straight-edged shovel. To make this easier, wet the area thoroughly, then use the shovel to cut the lawn into strips that are the width of the shovel and about three feet long. (Expert tip: Sharpen the edge of the shovel frequently with a file.) Use the shovel to pry up and roll back the strips of sod. Once the sod is removed, you can loosen the underlying soil with a shovel or a power tiller.

For larger areas covered by lawn, consider using a heavy-duty garden tiller to grind the sod into the underlying soil. This has the twin benefits of adding organic matter to the soil and eliminating the need to discard or compost sod.

Regardless of how you are preparing your bed, be sure to use this opportunity to mix in organic matter (such as compost, peat moss, or rotted manure) and loosen the soil at least 6 inches deep, or even 8 to 12 inches if you can. Don't mix in fertilizer unless your soil test shows a need; in general, excessive amounts of fertilizer will do more harm than good.

After your bed is prepared, water it thoroughly and wait a week. This will allow some weed seeds to germinate. Remove these seedlings or dig them back into the soil. If you choose to use chemicals to kill the weeds, follow the instructions to the letter, including the time to wait after application before planting.

Edging. Most beds are easier to maintain if they have an edging that keeps surrounding grass or vegetation from invading. Choose plastic, metal, stone, or brick -- whatever you prefer. If you have lawn around your bed, consider also including a mowing strip, a 6- to 12-inch-wide swath of masonry or stone set even with the surrounding soil.

Planting. Now comes the fun part! If you have all of your plants on hand, keep them in their pots and set them out on the planting bed. This will give you a preview of how the bed will look and allow you to make adjustments. Use the tags that come with the plants to ensure that the spacing is correct. Don't worry that the bed looks sparse; the young plants need room to grow.

When you're satisfied with the arrangement, plant your garden from largest to smallest container (usually trees first, then shrubs, perennials, and finally annuals). Each plant type does best with a specific planting method:

- **Trees.** Dig a hole that is slightly larger than the pot or root ball and deep enough so the top of the root ball or pot is slightly higher than the surrounding soil. For potted trees, remove the tree from the pot, loosen the soil slightly around the roots, then place the tree into the planting hole. For balled-and-burlapped trees, loosen the burlap after the tree is in the hole, cutting away as much of the burlap as possible. When the tree is in place and straight, fill the hole one-third with soil, tamp firmly to make good contact between roots and soil, then water. Repeat twice more until the hole is filled. Make a shallow collar of soil around the hole to catch water and hold it near the root zone. Water the tree thoroughly by letting a hose run slowly for 30 minutes.
- **Shrubs.** Plant shrubs in a hole that's about twice the diameter of the root ball. The top of the root ball should be slightly above the surrounding soil level. Backfill with garden soil, tamping firmly to ensure a contact between soil and roots. Water immediately by slowly running a hose at the shrub's base for about 20 minutes.
- **Perennials and Annuals.** Set these plants in soil at the same level they were growing in the pot. Firm the soil around each plant with your hands, then water thoroughly.

Mulching. As you place each plant, it's a good idea to add mulch to conserve moisture, cool the roots of plants, and protect the soil from washing away in the rain. Organic mulches like shredded bark will require periodic additions as the mulch decays. Mulches like crushed stone are more permanent, but may not offer the character you prefer.

Aftercare. The first season of growth is the most critical for your garden. A good guideline is to water thoroughly every other day for the first two weeks, then twice weekly for the remainder of the first season. The following year, you can let nature take its course, supplementing dry periods with deep watering.

You should also be diligent about weeding your bed during the first year. As the plants mature and fill in, there will be fewer opportunities for weeds to gain a foothold. A thick layer of mulch will also help keep weeds in check.

Ongoing Maintenance. Most plants will thrive with only minimal care. Apply a general fertilizer according to package directions in the spring after growth has started. If you need to prune trees or shrubs to maintain their shape or size, do it in late winter before growth has started. The exception to this general rule is spring-flowering shrubs like lilacs that should be pruned immediately after flowering.