

Herbaceous Borders



Do's

- Choose plenty of different varieties to give flowers throughout the season
- Repeat certain long flowering perennials throughout the border to give balance
- Vary your heights throughout the bed to give an airy feel to the planting
- Sticking to a colour scheme can add style and continuity
- Mix in plenty of organic matter to enrich the soil when replanting
- Plant in threes or fives to give blocks of colour helping make your planting look more established
- Feed plants annually with Vitax Q4

Don'ts

- Plant invasive varieties otherwise they will dominate, we only grow well behaved varieties on the nursery
- Let plants self seed as cutting back after flowering encourages repeat flowers later on in the season
- Leave plants undivided for more than 3 years otherwise flowering ability will reduce, divide and replant to encourage juvenile vigor
- Forget to position plant supports in April to prevent some taller varieties from falling over
- Forget to plan your seasonal colour

"Bloom where you are planted"

Where to start?



PLAN YOUR PLANTING

The first job is to plan out your planting with Spring, Summer and Autumnal plants all mixed in to give you the desired result throughout the seasons



WEED/CLEAN THE BORDER

Annual weeds can be dug out by hand but with perennial weeds and invasive plants they will need killing off with herbicide. Spray around or transplant any plants you want to keep



PREPARE THE SOIL

The border will need digging over to break up the compacted soil, then incorporate some organic matter to enrich the soil, this encourages strong healthy root development



PLANTING UP

Now for the fun bit, you can always veer away from your plan as long as you have a general structure. Plant up, firm in well then apply a mulch to prevent seeding weeds from growing on the surface

Popular Plants to Include



MONARDA

A beautiful range of colourful perennials flowering throughout the Summer with aromatic foliage. Great for wetter soils and they are a bee and butterfly magnet. Divide and replant every 2 years



PHLOX PANICULATA

The backbone to any herbaceous border with their reliable mounds of perfumed flowers in pastel shades. Reliable for flower and very low maintenance, plant different varieties



LUPINS

A very unique group of plants with striking upright flowers. Trim out the flowering stems when they finish flowering in June and they will flower again later on in the Summer.



ALLIUMS

Great for early colour and they work well when dotted through perennials and also grasses. Plant either in the Autumn or as potted bulbs in the Spring. Cut and dry after flowering

Border Design Service Available

BY JOHN FOLEY

PLEASE ASK FOR DETAILS