



Fragrant Gardens



In this case beauty is in the nose of the beholder. Fragrance in the garden is a very intimate, personal preference that seems to conjure feelings of comfort and love, memories of a special occasions or dearest family and friends, and changes in emotion and mood. Some fragrant plants are older varieties that still have a lasting, classic smell, where as some newer varieties have been engineered to have stronger, sweeter, or better fragrances for the future. Keep in mind that fragrances can clash, just as colors can, so do some research before you start planting and keep these tips and list of fragrant plant material in mind:

- An ideal site for fragrant gardens would be out of the wind, so the fragrance does not dissipate and will be trapped to linger under an arbor, near a fence, against the house or near an evergreen hedge.
- Mix the two types of fragrant plants in the garden for the best effect, both fragrant **foliage types**, where the plants need to be touched in order to release fragrant oils like most herbs, and the **fragrant flowering** types that release a scent from oil glands that attract pollinators.
- Fragrance gardens attract beneficial pollinators, the birds and the bees both, so if you do not want to attract these animals, we do not suggest this type of garden for your space.
- Stagger your flowering and foliage plants so you have fragrance from morning until evening and spring thru fall. Meanwhile you will create an eye-catching variation of texture, color, and shape.

Fragrant Plant List:

Annuals/Herbs (most):

Sweet Alyssum
Nasturtium
Scented Geraniums
Heliotrope
Lavender, annual types
Lemon Verbena
Nicotiana
Petunia
Nemesia
Marigolds
Dianthus
Lantana
Sweet Pea
Pansy/Viola

Bulbs:

Hyacinth/Grape Hyacinth
Poet's Narcissus
Tulip, some
Snowdrops

Perennials:

Artemisia
Daylily, 'Halcyon'
Chrysanthemum, some
Dianthus
Red Valerian
Lavender
Peony
Thyme
Sweet Woodruff
Lily-of-the-Valley
Hosta, 'Aphrodite', 'So Sweet', etc.
Iris, some
Lily, some Oriental,
Asiatic, and Trumpet
Bee Balm
Evening Primrose
Perovskia
Garden Phlox
Iberis
Salvia

Vines:

Honeysuckle
Wisteria
Climbing Hydrangea
Clematis 'Sweet Autumn'

Trees and Shrubs:

Lilac
Mock Orange
Viburnum, some
Clethra
Butterfly Bush
Daphne
Deutzia
Fothergilla
Itea
Magnolia
Crabapple, some 'Sugar Tyme', 'Winter Gem', 'Molten Lava'
Roses, many 'Double Delight', 'Fragrant Cloud', 'Julia Child', 'Memorial Day', 'Mr. Lincoln', 'Sentimental', etc.