



Top Tips
Annual
Gardening Tasks

Month	Ornamental Trees	Shrubs and Climbers	Lawns	Herbaceous Perennials	Hedges	Soil care	Bulbs	Weeds	Pests & Diseases	Ornamental Seed Sowing	Containers	Bedding plants
December	Plant, Mulching	Planting, hardwood cuttings and mulching		Mulch	Trim hedges, but not when there's a frost.	Mulch with organic matter		Dig out or weedkill deep rooted perennial weeds - dandelions, docks, plantain	Keep garden tidy and free of general debris - but leave some areas for hibernating predators - ladybirds, hedgehogs, frogs and toads etc.			
January	Pruning and Planting	Planting, hardwood cuttings		Mulch	Trim hedges before birds start nesting, but not when there's a frost.	Mulch with organic matter		Mulch to a depth of at least 2 inches	Keep garden tidy and free of general debris - but leave some areas for hibernating predators - ladybirds, hedgehogs, frogs and toads etc.	Sow Hardy annuals under cover with heat - marigold, nasturtium, Nigella, Sweet peas, Poppy, Rudbeckia, Sunflower, California Poppy, Ammi majus, Cornflower, Wildflowers, Borage		
February	Pruning and Planting	Planting, Pruning hardwood cuttings		Mulch	Trim hedges before birds start nesting, but not when there's a frost.	Mulch with organic matter		Mulch to a depth of at least 2 inches		Sow Hardy annuals under cover with no heat - marigold, nasturtium, Nigella, Sweet peas, Poppy, Rudbeckia, Sunflower, California Poppy, Ammi majus, Cornflower, Wildflowers, Borage		

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March	Pruning, Planting and fertilising	Planting and Pruning - Group 3: Hydrangeas, Buddleja, Hardy Fuchsia, Spirea Group 7: - coppiced - Cornus, Salix, Corylus, Sambucus, Rubus, Cotinus	Start mowing, nitrate feed and kill moss	Divide Summer flowering plants, support/stake tall plants. Plant out new plants.		Add fertiliser suited to the plants you are growing.	Transplant Snowdrops (in the green)	Hoe out weed seedlings	Check for infection or infestation on new plant growth. Remove infected leaves and burn or dispose of them.	Sow Hardy annuals under cover - marigold, nasturtium, Nigella, Sweet peas, Poppy, Rudbeckia, Sunflower, California Poppy, Ammi majus, Cornflower, Wildflowers	Give plants permanently in containers a liquid fertiliser and fresh top 3cm of compost/top soil.	
April		Group 2: Prune late Spring flowering shrubs - Weigela, Philadelphus, Rhododendron, Azalea, Ribes, Forsythia, Broom Group 3: Kerria	Mow, nitrate feed and kill moss	Stake/Support Plants. Plant Out new plants.		Add fertiliser suited to the plants you are growing.	Plant Summer bulbs/tubers- Lilies, Dahlias. Fertilise Spring flowering bulbs after deadheading and allow leaves to die back naturally (then remove the leaves).	Hoe out weed seedlings. Spot-treat perennial weeds in your borders	Check for infection or infestation on new plant growth. Remove infected leaves and burn or dispose of them. Grow plant to attract predators and use companion planting.	Sow Half-Hardy annuals under cover - Cosmos, Petunia, Antirrhinum, Zinnia, Morning Glory, Lobelia and Annuals - Rhodochiton atrosanguineum AND Sow Hardy annuals outside		
May	Keep circle of 1m diameter around the tree free of weeds.	Take Soft tip cuttings	Mowing	Deadhead early spring plants, Chelsea Chop		Keep moist		Each week hoe out weed seedlings. Spot-treat perennial weeds in your borders. Deadhead any weeds that have set seed. Deadhead any perennials you do not want to self-seed. Deadhead any perennials you do not want to self-seed.	Check for infection or infestation on new plant growth. Remove infected leaves and burn or dispose of them. Spray insects with with organic sprays where possible. Catch and remove slugs and snails. Grow plants to attract predators and use companion planting.		Plant up containers with tender/half hardy plants for the summer, but protect from frosts.	Plant up containers with summer bedding, but protect from frosts until June.

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June			Mowing	Deadhead Spring Plants	Trim topiary	Keep moist		Each week hoe out weed seedlings. Spot-treat perennial weeds in your borders. Deadhead any weeds that have set seed. Deadhead any perennials you do not want to self-seed.		Sow Hardy biennials to flower next year - Canterbury Bells, Foxgloves, Forget-me-nots, Sweet Williams, Wallflowers - can be left outside	Water and deadhead flowering plants.	Summer bedding can be planted out in borders or external containers.
July		Group 2: Prune late Spring flowering shrubs - Weigela, Philadelphus, Rhododendron, Azalea, Ribes, Forsythia, Broom Group 3: Kerria	Mowing		Trim topiary	Keep moist		Deadhead any perennials you do not want to self-seed.		Sow Hardy biennials to flower next year - Canterbury Bells, Foxgloves, Forget-me-nots, Sweet Williams, Wallflowers - can be left outside	Water and deadhead flowering plants.	Water and deadhead flowering plants.
August			Mowing		Trim topiary	Keep moist		Deadhead any perennials you do not want to self-seed.			Water and deadhead flowering plants.	Water and deadhead flowering plants.
September		Prune summer flowering shrubs - Lavender	Mowing and phosphate feed				Plant Daffodils, Crocus and other early Spring bulbs	Deadhead any perennials you do not want to self-seed.		Sow Hardy Annuals for earlier flowers - Sweet Peas, Cornflower, Calendula etc and keep undercover. Sow Hardy Perennials - leave these outside in a protected area (cold frame).	Empty containers where flowering plants have finished.	Water and deadhead flowering plants.
October		Mulching. Prune Shrub and Climbing Roses	Aerate, top dress and rake up fallen leaves.	Divide Spring flowering plants, Deadhead summer plants and cut back old foliage of deciduous plants. Plant out new plants.			Plant tulips and Alliums	Mulch to a depth of at least 2 inches	Remove fallen, dead and diseased leaves and plants. Do not compost if infected - burn or throw away	Sow Hardy Perennials - leave these outside in a protected area (cold frame).	Prepare winter containers with hardy plants: Violas, Pansies, Primulas, Cyclamen, bulbs, heathers etc.	Remove plants when they have finished flowering or when the frosts start.
November	Plant, Mulching	Planting, Hardwood cuttings and mulching	Rake up fallen leaves.	Mulch. Plant out new plants when there's no frost	Trim hedges, but not when there's a frost.	Mulch with organic matter	Plant tulips and Alliums	Dig out or weedkill deep rooted perennial weeds - dandelions, docks, plantain	Remove fallen, dead and diseased leaves and plants. Do not compost if infected - burn or throw away		Raise containers up on "feet" to allow better drainage and less frost damage.	