



Plant care instructions
SHRUBS

Richard Jackson *Garden*

Introduction



Shrubs form the backbone of our garden displays, and usually the first plants to think about and consider when creating a new bed or border.

They're versatile too, as not only are they the garden's main structural plants, but some can be grown as hedges, used as low-growing ground cover or trained as wall shrubs to cover walls and fences.

There are evergreens that provide structure, colour and interest all year round and deciduous types that drop their leaves in autumn - often with a final fanfare for the year with a splash of gorgeous autumnal leaf tints.

While some need a warm, sunny position to thrive, others prefer the cooler conditions offered by shady positions. And there are others that really don't care - you can give them sun or shade!

And then there are those that reach a good size, and can be used as main focal points throughout the garden, and those that are lower growing, helping to fill in areas at the front of beds and borders.

Finally, many shrubs provide excellent scent and fragrance, and help to attract bees, butterflies and other important beneficial insects into the garden.

All in all, shrubs are essential for every garden!

You've made a great choice buying some of ours. We've chosen some of the best varieties available, some brand new and special, others that are loved by professional growers and nursery owners, and those so good they've been given an Award of Garden Merit by the RHS.

Your plants on arrival

When your plants arrive, open the packaging fully, carefully lift out the plants, remove any packaging, and water them if the compost seems dry.

Your plants can be planted into their growing/flowering positions straight away. If you can't plant straight away, put them somewhere outside, but sheltered from frost, very cold temperatures and strong/cold winds until you can plant them.

Planting out

Water thoroughly immediately before planting. Watering with **Flower Power** at half the recommended dilution will help get plants off to the perfect start.

Growing in beds and borders

In beds and borders, all our shrubs grow best in well-drained, but moisture-retentive soil. Dig the planting hole at least twice the size of the pot, sprinkle some compost in the bottom and, ideally, add some **Root Booster** or **Easy Feed** fertiliser, before planting. Pop the plant in the planting hole, adding a bit more compost if needed so that the top of the rootball is at the same level as the soil, and add more compost around the sides of the plant. Gently firm in with your fingers or the end of a trowel or hand fork and water in thoroughly with 4.5-9 litres (1-2 gallons) of water per plant, ideally using a dilute plant food like **Flower Power**.

Growing in pots

If growing in pots, use a good multi-purpose compost – my **Premium Multi Purpose Compost** and **Premium Peat-Free Compost** are ideal – or multi-purpose compost with added John Innes. The lime-hating plants, camellias and pieris, will need a lime-free compost like my **Ericaceous Compost**. To help plants establish extra quickly, water in with a dilute plant food, such as **Flower Power**.



Growing on

Water thoroughly whenever necessary to prevent the compost or soil drying out, especially during the first three months after planting while the plants are establishing. Some plants, such as lavender and hebes, develop good drought resistance once established.

It is important to give each plant enough water that gets to the bottom of the roots. Giving plants in the ground 9 litres (2 gallons) of water per week is far better than watering little and more frequently. Plants in pots and other containers will probably need watering more frequently. Water whenever the compost starts to dry out (the compost will turn light brown in colour) and give enough water that it just starts to trickle out of the drainage holes. If the soil or compost dry out, this will affect growth and flowering.



Feed plants regularly with a high potash, liquid plant food, such as Flower Power, through spring and summer, from two to four weeks after planting out. This really helps produce stronger, healthier plants with more flowers.

Mulch the soil around the plants, with a 5-7.5cm (2-3in) deep layer of organic matter, in autumn or spring, making sure the soil is moist before putting down the mulch. Any additional specific growing instructions can be found in their descriptions throughout the booklet.

Award Winning Ceanothus

Ceanothus, commonly called Californian lilacs, are lovely tall shrubs for the middle or back of border, for growing as a wall shrub on sunny, south-facing walls or even as an informal screen or hedge.



Ceanothus 'Skylark' is a compact, bushy evergreen shrub smothered in clusters of deep blue flowers in late spring and early summer. These are set off by finely toothed, small, dark green, glossy leaves. Grow it in a south- or west-facing border with other shrubs, or give it more space as a specimen, focal point. And it looks great when grown in pots. Height 200cm (80in), Spread 150cm (60in).

J00149

Further growing information

Needs a sunny position and protection from cold winds. Ceanothus become drought resisting once established. Any pruning should be done as soon as flowering finishes.

Award Winning Evergreen Azalea Collection

Japanese azaleas, which are types of rhododendrons, are brilliant compact, evergreen shrubs for brightening up your garden in May and June. Like rhododendrons and camellias, they need lime-free soil and prefer positions in light shade. They're perfect for growing in containers, using ericaceous compost.



Azalea 'Blue Danube' produces masses of broadly funnel-shaped, pale-centred, violet-blue flowers, 4cm (1½in) wide, which open in late spring.

Height 90cm (36in), Spread 70cm (28in).

J00148



Azalea 'Johanna' is similar, but smothered in carmine-red flowers in late spring and early summer. It is also one of the best evergreen azaleas for autumn foliage, the leaves turning dark bronzy-red when temperatures drop.

Height 90cm (36in), Spread 70cm (28in).

J00148

Further growing information

Azaleas prefer a cool position in partial or light shade.

They are lime-hating plants, so have to be grown in an acidic, lime-free soil. If your soil is alkaline or chalky, grow them in containers of ericaceous compost.

They are shallow rooted, and soon shown signs of water stress during hot, dry weather, so keep them well watered during these conditions.



Award Winning Mock Orange



Philadelphus, commonly known as mock orange, is a delightful deciduous shrub grown for its highly fragrant summer flowers.

Philadelphus 'Belle Etoile' is a compact variety, that flowers profusely. In June and July, plants are smothered with highly fragrant, large, single, cup-shaped white flowers with a yellow centre and splashes of purple. The delicious fresh, orange-blossom fragrance is particularly prominent during warm summer evenings.

Height 120cm (48in), Spread 150cm (60in).

J00158

Further growing information

Once established, prune annually after flowering by removing one or two of the oldest, flowering stems down to ground level.



Camellias

Camellias are among our most popular spring-flowering shrubs, mainly thanks to their large, showy flowers. These are set off by glossy evergreen leaves, which add colour, texture, structure and interest to the garden all year round.



Camellia japonica 'Dr King' produces large, semi-double, reddish-pink, ruffled flowers from February to April.

Height 200cm (80in), Spread 200cm (80in).

J00145



Camellia japonica 'Golden Anniversary' bears nearly perfectly symmetrical, double, creamy-white flowers with a deeper centre in mid and late spring.

Height 150cm (60in), Spread 200cm (80in).

J00147



Camellia 'Lady Campbell' produces large, bright red, double flowers, and blooms from April through to the end of May.

Height 200cm (80in), Spread 150cm (60in).

J00146

Further growing information

Camellias prefer a cool position in partial or light shade, and certainly one out of early morning sunlight in spring.

They are lime-hating plants, so have to be grown in an acidic, lime-free soil. If your soil is alkaline or chalky, grow them in containers of ericaceous compost.

They are shallow rooted, and soon show signs of water stress during hot, dry weather, so keep them well watered during these conditions.



Escallonia 'Pink Elle'



Escallonias are great evergreen shrubs, producing glossy evergreen foliage. Not only are they great for beds, borders, containers and for hedging, they're excellent plants for coastal gardens.

Escallonia 'Pink Elle' is a great new variety that flowers profusely in summer and again well into autumn, producing large, bright pink flowers. It's a perfect choice for sunny beds and borders as well as growing in containers, and as a low-ish hedge. It is an RHS Plants For Pollinators.

Height 140cm (48in), Spread 140cm (48in).

J00153



Hebes

Hebes, commonly called shrubby veronicas, are extremely popular summer-flowering evergreen shrubs. They boast masses of flowers, set off by brilliant foliage.

Hebe 'Claret Crush'



Hebe 'Claret Crush' is a colourful evergreen shrub that produces rich green leaves that turn a striking deep purple colour during the colder months of autumn and winter, providing year-round interest. The beautiful purple and white flowers are produced on purple-red stems during summer.

Height 60cm (24in), Spread 60cm (24in).

J00164



Hebe Pixie Collection

The "**Pixies**" are compact and low growing, making them perfect choices for all sizes of garden, for growing in confined spaces and for starring in containers.



Hebe 'Pink Pixie' is smothered in light pink flowers from late spring to early autumn, and set off by, a rounded mound of year-round dark green leaves.).

Height 40cm (16in), Spread 40cm (16in).

J00166



Hebe 'Purple Pixie' bears a profusion of lovely purple flowers at the same time of year and again complemented by year-round dark green leaves.

Height 40cm (16in), Spread 40cm (16in).

J00166

Further growing information

Hebes prefer full sun, although they will tolerate light shade. Hebes are very drought resistant once established and are perfect for coastal gardens.

If any pruning is needed, this is best done in April/early May.



Lavenders

Lavenders are among some of our favourite shrubs thanks to their masses of fragrant flowers in summer and delightful, all year round ever-grey/silvery scented foliage. They're drought resisting once established, make excellent low hedges and are brilliant choices for coastal gardens. Grow them in beds, borders and containers, or use them for delightful short flowering hedges or bed edging. They are RHS Plants For Pollinators.

Lavender BeeZee Pastel Collection



Lavender 'BeeZee Light Blue' is a new variety of English lavender. This hardy, compact variety has been bred to specifically stand up to the British weather. It is very free-flowering, producing tons of perfumed, light blue flowers held above scented grey-green evergreen foliage. Height 40-50cm (16-20in), Spread 40-50cm (16-20in).

J00154



Lavender 'BeeZee Pink' is also a new variety and is similar in every way, except that it produces delightful pale pink flowers. Height 40-50cm (16-20in), Spread 40-50cm (16-20in).

J00154

UK Plant Passport
A Lavandula angustifolia
B 130137
C 2021100218
D GB

UK Plant Passport
A Lavandula angustifolia
B 130137
C 2021100219
D GB

Lavender 'BeeZee Dark Blue'



Lavender 'BeeZee Dark Blue' is a new variety of English lavender. This hardy, compact variety has been bred to specifically stand up to the British weather,. It is very free-flowering, producing masses of perfumed, dark blue flowers held above scented silvery-green to grey-green evergreen foliage. Think of it as an improved, more compact variety of the very popular 'Hidcote'.

Height 40-50cm (16-20in), Spread 40-50cm (16-20in).

J00155

Further growing information

It pays to trim lavenders annually after flowering, or in April, or at both times to keep them compact and flowering well.

UK Plant Passport
A Lavandula angustifolia
B 130137
C C 2021100217
D GB

Osmanthus 'Party Lights'



Osmanthus heterophyllus 'Party Lights' is a new variety of holly-leaf tea olive, an evergreen shrub that boasts superb new foliage with delightful and colourful variegation. The leaves emerge hot pink in colour, slowly lightening to a soft pink and cream, before turning a medium green as they mature. This compact, rounded evergreen also bears delightfully fragrant white flowers in autumn. Height up to 150cm (60in), Spread up to 120cm (48in).

J00162

UK Plant Passport
A Osmanthus heterophyllus
B 130137
C 2021100223
D GB

Potentillas

Potentillas, commonly called shrubby cinquefoil, are versatile, long-flowering, deciduous shrubs. They produce masses of flowers, which look like small wild roses, for months on end from late spring all the way through to mid-autumn. They're perfect for beds, borders or containers in sun or partial shade and can be used to make a lovely flowering short hedge. They are RHS Plants For Pollinators.



Award Winning Potentilla

Potentilla 'Primrose Beauty' produces masses of primrose-yellow flowers above compact mounds of grey-green leaves.

Height 100cm (40in), Spread 150cm (60in).

J00152



Potentilla 'Bella Sol'

Potentilla 'Bella Sol' bears masses of orange and yellow flowers, which look like the colours of sunny, summer sunsets, above compact mounds of green leaves.

Height 75cm (30in), Spread 100cm (40in).

J00159



Potentilla 'Bellissima'

Potentilla 'Bellissima' is covered in lovely, rich pink flowers above compact mounds of green leaves.

Height 60cm (24in), Spread 60cm (24in)

J00160

Further growing information

Potentillas benefit from pruning back annually in late winter or early spring, as they can become leggy otherwise.

UK Plant Passport
A Potentilla fruticosa
B 130137
C 2021100229
D GB

UK Plant Passport
A Potentilla fruticosa
B 130137
C 2021100227
D GB

UK Plant Passport
A Potentilla fruticosa
B 130137
C 2021100228
D GB

Red-Leaved Pieris



Pieris are very popular evergreen shrubs, providing lots of interest all year round and commonly known as lily-of-the-valley shrub.

Pieris japonica 'Katsura' is a fabulous brand new compact variety, selected for its continuous deep wine-red coloured new leaf growth during spring and summer. From March to May, it bears sprays of rose-pink, scented flowers that cascade over the glossy evergreen foliage. The deep purple flower buds provide winter interest. It is an RHS Plants For Pollinators.

Height 150cm (60in), Spread 150cm (60in).

J00151

Further growing information

Pieris needs a position in light or partial shade, certainly out of early morning sunshine, and a lime-free, acidic soil. They love the same conditions as rhododendrons, azaleas and camellias.

UK Plant Passport
A Pieris japonica
B 130137
C 2021130204
D GB

Sweet Box



Sarcococca confusa, sweet box or sometimes called winter box, is a tough, hardy evergreen shrub that produces the most wonderful, sweetly scented, creamy-white flowers from December to March. These are set among lustrous, glossy, dark green, evergreen leaves and followed by glossy, black berries. Sweet box is a compact shrub that is perfect for shady areas, even quite deep shade, and woodland gardens.

Height 200cm (80in), Spread 100cm (40in).

J00144

UK Plant Passport
A Sarcococca confusa
B 130137
C 2021100230
D GB

Viburnum 'Coppertop'



Viburnum 'Coppertop' is a completely new variety of sweet viburnum. The glossy evergreen foliage is bronzy-red when it emerges, changing to deep green as it matures. In May and June, it produces clusters of deliciously scented white flowers. Grow this bushy plant as a specimen plant in beds or borders, or as a focal point in a container. Or train it into a spectacular hedge or shape it into a column. Height 240cm (96in), Spread 150cm (60in).

J00161

Further growing information

'Coppertop' is very drought resistant once established.

UK Plant Passport
A Viburnum odoratissimum
B 130137
C 2021100232
D GB

Weigela 'All Summer Peach'



Weigela 'All Summer Peach' is the latest in the All Summer series, so called because these prolific deciduous shrubs can produce their flowers constantly from April to October. It has delightful soft apricot-coloured, funnel-shaped flowers that contrast with the dark green leaves. It has a compact habit, and is perfect for beds, borders and pots. Height 75cm (30in), Spread 75cm (30in).

J00185

Further growing information

Any pruning that is needed should be carried out after flowering.

UK Plant Passport
A Weigela
B 130137
C 2021100233
D GB

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www.richardjacksonsgarden.co.uk