

Good soils

Sunny

Shady

Drier



Wetter

- Perovskia
- Yucca
- Mallow
- Eryngium
- Calamagrotis
- Cosmos
- Achillea
- Rosemary
- Herbs
- Salvia
- Aster
- Monarda
- Iris
- Bamboos
- Gypsophilia
- Cytisus (Broom)
- Stipa
- Tulip
- Lavender
- Spring Bulbs
- Sanguisorbia
- Primula
- Sedum
- Grasses
- Dianthus
- Philadelphus
- Annuals
- Crocus
- Zantedeschia

- Cyclamen
- Lamium
- Bergenia
- Ivy
- Fatsia
- Skimmia
- Lobelia
- Liriope
- Euphorbia
- Robbaie
- Hypericum
- Pachysandra
- Mahonia
- Buxus
- Rhododendron
- Cimicifuga
- Dicentra
- Dryopteris
- Vinca
- Aucuba
- Wood Anemone
- Viola
- Convallaria
- Ferns
- Hostas

# Generally Good Soils

rule of thumb  
Our guide to the types of plants you want & those you don't!

Having the right plant in the right place makes for both a better garden and one that is more likely to look after itself; which should mean there is less unwanted garden maintenance for you to do.

## Sunny but dry

A lot of plants will thrive here, as the soils is rich even though it can dry out, however the larger leaved plant or those with large flowers may need extra watering to keep them looking good.

### TRY TO AVOID:

Many bedding plants, plants with big lush leaves or large showy flowers. Plants that repeat flower over long periods, fruiting plants, highly cultivated plants that require lots of nurturing. Also plants that are generally moisture lovers, ferns even the toughest ones are not much use here. Summer flowering bulbs like Dahlias and Lilies will also struggle in the dry soil.

### YOU CAN USE:

Silvery leaved plants, wiry stems, plants with a short flowering season, Mediterranean looking plants, Grasses, plants with succulent leaves, lots of spring bulbs, annual or plants with shiny or sword shaped leaves.

## Sunny but damp soils

Just about every plant will thrive here, but you need to ensure you don't saddle yourself with plants that will quickly turn into thugs 'out to take over the garden'!

**AVOID** anything that has on the label: (at least plant with caution!)

Fast Growing, Vigorous, Good for Ground Cover, Good for Naturalising, Self Seeds, Thrives in Tough conditions also see out website for lists of other 'Speed Spreaders' or 'Triffids'

### YOU CAN USE:

Pretty much any plant you like, as long as it doesn't fit the plant types above or thrives in shade.

## Shadier but damp

Most shade loving plants will thrive in these conditions, but there are some thugs out there cunningly disguised to look like pretty plants, that you need to avoid or they will take over!

**AVOID** anything that has on the label: (at least plant with caution!)

Fast Growing, Vigorous, Good for Ground Cover, Good for Naturalising, Self Seeds, Thrives in Tough conditions also see out website for lists of other 'Speed Spreaders' or 'Triffids'

### YOU CAN USE:

Lots of large lush looking plants such as Hosta, Hydrangea, Eupatorium, Cornus, Osmunda, many Ferns, Astilbe, Lysimachia (it will spread) & Cimicifuga.

Plants that will spread pretty fast include; Vinca, Lamium, Pachysandra, Galium Oderatum, Ivy, Japanese Anemone, some Bamboos, Hypericum and Bluebells.

## Shaded and dry

Even though the soil is good, these are tough conditions for most plants to get a foot hold in. Most plants will need help to get started, so don't forget to water them, but the tougher plants will succeed and the dry shade will hold there vigour in check turning that garden thug into a well behaved plant that out competes the weeds.

### IF YOU DO WANT TO PLANT:

You want the toughest plants and shrubs, their fast growth will be held in check by the tough conditions, so; Anything that thrives in dry shade, but you will need to water regularly for the first couple of years to give the plant a chance to gain any sort of foothold.

### YOU CAN USE:

All these plants listed to the left!