

# Plant Plots

## Best for Bees



Border designs with our little furry flying friends in mind; and the butterflies will love these too

# Frills and Spills



## *Best for:*

Feeding your bees for most of the year and teen tiny pretty flowers

## *But not for:*

Lots of shade, cold exposed sites, wet or heavy soils



# Frills and Spills

All these plants will flower their socks off and provide food for the bees (and butterflies) for much of the year.

Thank you for choosing this design for your garden. We would love to see the planted border, so please feel free to upload your pictures to our Facebook page.

<i>Plant</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Aftercare</i>
Calamagrostis Brachytrica	1	This loves poor soils and is shallow rooted (as are most grasses.) If you buy a large plant, you can split the clump into 2 or 3 smaller plants and plant these. It's a very tactile plant.	Don't enrich the soil before planting, grasses need to be treated mean to keep them keep. In Feb, grab hold of the spent flower stalks and wiggle them, the stalks should break off in your hand, leaving the new growth untouched. Pull gently though Calamagrostis have shallow roots.
Geranium Psilostemon	3	This is a really lovely large geranium; however, it likes to grow round and through other plants rather than dominate and go over everything in its path. It also has the most shockingly loud magenta flowers - which bees love.	Once established, ignore it until all the flowers are nearly finished, then be brave and give it a 'shortish back and sides' with shears. In a couple of weeks, it will flower all over again for you. Then in Jan/Feb cut it back hard before it starts growing again.
Heuchera any purple coloured variety	3	Heuchera's have fantastic coloured leaves and then send up dainty spikes of tiny flowers in summer. Very easy to look after, very well behaved and the bees love the flowers too.	These are easy to pull up by accident, so when removing spent flowers and old leaves, just be a bit gentle.
Lavender Stoechas	2	This is known as French Lavender is not quite as hardy as some standard lavender, but in a warm sheltered garden like this it should be fine. Stoechas are smaller and more compact, but the flower heads are much showier. You can get white flowered varieties, but any colour will look good.	All lavenders need trimming after flowering, cut back the silvery soft leaves to a more compact shape. Don't chop into brown wood, they don't like it and will sulk and or die. If you cannot get Stoechas, then any compact lavender will be fine.
Physostegia virginiana	1	This is such a pretty plant for filling up a border. It has spires of pink or white flowers in mid summer and is so easy to look after	This plant will spread by a mat of roots just below the surface. But it is easy to remove if it spread too far. Once it's finished flowering, simply cut down the spent stalks, and that's it.
Verbena Bonariensis	3	Every garden should have these, bees love them, butterflies love them, humans love them - snails and other plant eating bugs hate them! So, a perfect plant really.	In late autumn, cut the plant back to the base and wait for spring. These do self-seed, but with these, more is definitely better!

# Plant Images



*Calamagrostis*



*Geranium*



*Heuchera*



*Lavender*



*Physostegia*



*Verbena*

All the plants used in our designs should be readily available in most reputable garden centres or your local nursery. If buying bulbs or seeds it is often better to use a specialist supplier as the quality of the produce is often better. There may be some plants that are only available from online suppliers or specialist nurseries. But, if you have any queries please contact: [enquiries@plantplots.com](mailto:enquiries@plantplots.com)

## Placement and Pot Advice:

<i>Plant</i>	<i>Planting in a pot</i>
Calamagrosits	Plant in a sturdy weighted pot in well drained un-enriched soil
Geranium	Plant with the Physostegia in a wide pot
Heuchera	Ensure good drainage plant with the Lavender
Lavender	As above
Physostegia	Plant with the Geranium
Verbena	Plant with the Calmagrostis

# Planting and Potting

## MiniPlots

are designed to be planted in pots, but you can plant these into the ground too (they should fit an area approx 1m square). All the plants are designed to last, so no planting bedding and then throwing it and the compost away after a few weeks; these displays are meant to last.

All planting in pots requires more looking after than planting into soil, so you will need to water and feed regularly.

## To plant:

When planting in pots, don't just use a multipurpose compost; use a mixture of topsoil (or soil based compost) and a multipurpose compost – 70% topsoil, 30% compost. Plants grow best in soil.

If the posts are in a sunny spot you can also add water retaining granules to the mix, and with larger pots set these up on pot feet or on pot castors to lift the pot off the floor, allowing for better drainage and easy moving.

You can add a slow release fertiliser in granular form, but remember these only work when water dissolves the granules, water runs through pots quickly, meaning the granules won't release their nutrients before the water runs out, so adding a powdered or liquid based feed might be better.

## Add a drainage medium:

Add some broken pots or stones to the base of each pot to allow the water to drain away. Every year check the drainage holes aren't blocked by roots if they are the plants could drown and won't thrive with roots sitting in water.

## Firm well in and water:

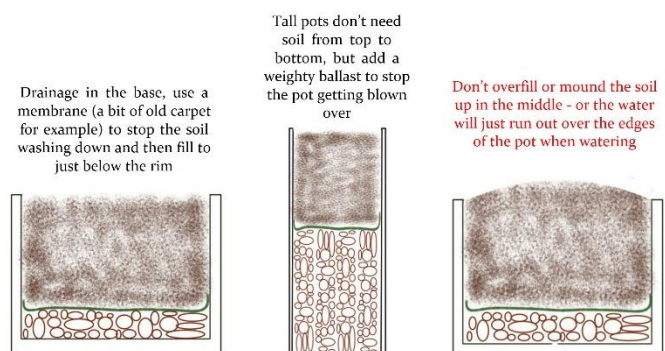
When watering any pot water the soil not so much the plant itself. Water until you can see water coming out from the base of the pot. It is better to water well 2-3 times per week rather sprinkle a little water on the pot every day.

## Add a drainage medium:

Add some broken pots or stones to the base of each pot to allow the water to drain away. Every year check the drainage holes aren't blocked by roots if they are the plants could drown and won't thrive with roots sitting in water.

## Filling the Pot:

If planting large shrubs or trees in pots, then use topsoil and fill the pot still use a drainage medium. However most plants don't have really deep root systems so pots don't need filling with expensive topsoil.



# Pot Advice

## *Terracotta or Stone Pots:*

These have been around for thousands of years -so they work well. Cheap terracotta pots will crack in the frost. Si choose a frost-proof pot, you will pay more but it will last - as long as it's not dropped or knocked over



## *Wooden Pots or Troughs*

Wood is a lovely material for planters, and is especially good in sunny places as it helps keep the roots cool. However, you will need to line the inside of the trough with a waterproof liner (with drainage holes punched in the base) or the wood starts to rot.



## *Metal Pots:*

The main issue with metal is temperature control. The root system is subject to more extreme temperatures, either cooking or freezing the roots. All metal pots need an insulating liner.



## *Plants not thriving:*

Growing any plant above ground is not normal for any plant; so they need more looking after. The three most common problems are:

The water simply runs through the pot or evaporates before the roots get a chance to drink

Because of this the roots can't extract nutrients from the soil; so they get hungry or,

The water collects around the roots at the base of the pot and they sit in cold waterlogged soil and drown.

So, regular proper watering is best (count to 10 at each pot whilst watering), Use a liquid based feed – have a Friday Feed Day routine, and check the drainage holes. Also read [Plantplots.com/indoor-plant--dying](https://www.plantplots.com/indoor-plant--dying)

## *Fibreglass Pots:*

Fibreglass pots are more expensive, but these come in a wide variety of shapes colours and textures. Most are lightweight and pretty durable. Do ensure you drill drainage hole in the base of the pots, when lifting off the floor don't use pot feet, use a pot stand to support the base properly/ Do also line the insides of the pots with an insulating material to protect the roots from the heat and the frost



## *Pot Shapes:*

The absolute best shape for any pot is wider at the top than the base. Watering is easier, adding more soil in the pot is simpler, and most importantly getting the plant out of the pot without having to break it is very sensible! If you do love round pots with narrow necks, then plant into a smaller pot that is inserted in the bigger one.

# La Perfumerie in Blue



## Best for:

Copyright PlantPlots 2021

Under the window to let the  
scent waft in and sunny  
sites

## But not for:

Lots of shade, cold  
exposed sites, wet or heavy  
soils or hayfever sufferers



# La Perfumerie in Blue

All these plants will flower their socks off and provide food for the bees (and butterflies) for much of the year.

Thank you for choosing this design for your garden. We would love to see the planted border, so please feel free to upload your pictures to our Facebook page.

<i>Plant</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Aftercare</i>
Lavender Augustifolia 'Hidcote'	3	This the best blue lavender; however, you can use any blue coloured lavender you like. Lavender's need poor soil, lots of sun and dry feet in winter.	Once all the flowers have finished, shear the stalks off and re-tidy the shape. Trim the lavender to the shape you want, but only trim the soft grey foliage.
Muscari	20 bulbs	Spring bulbs beloved by bees	No maintenance required, just remember where they were planted so you don't dig them up by accident!
Nepeta Nervosa	3	This is a scented catmint, it has blue flowers on grey leaves it gets to about 14 inches tall & it's very pretty.	Simply cut of spent flowers and make sure it's planted in a sunny well drained spot, and that's it.
Rosemary	1	We love Rosemary, it's good for roast Lamb and its great bee food too	Rosemary hates 2 things; a soggy bottom and hard pruning. Add grit when planting to aid drainage and with pruning, a light touch 2-3 times a year is best
Salvia 'Purpurescens'	4	This is the common sage plant. But it has scented leaves that go well with onion stuffing!	All salvias hate the cold & wet and no sun, so plant in a sunny well drained spot in poor soil and it will love you forever.
Salvia 'Superba'	6	This plant has the most intense blue flowers in summer	All salvias hate the cold & wet and no sun, so plant in a sunny well drained spot in poor soil and it will love you forever.

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# Plant Images



Lavender



Muscari



Nepeta



Rosemary



Salvia P



Salvia S

## Optional Plants:

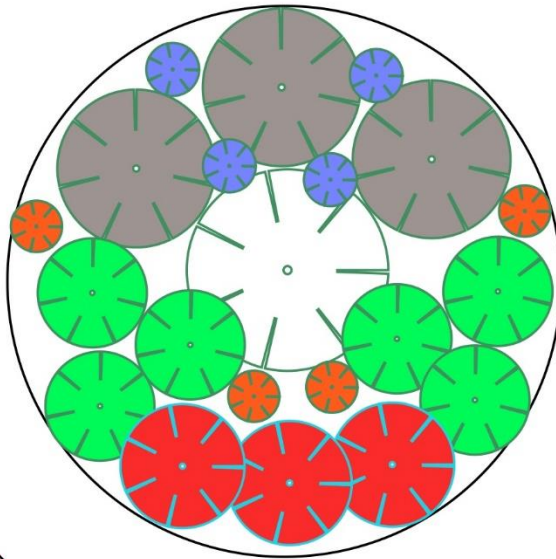
Verbena Bonariensis



<i>Plant</i>	<i>Alternative if applicable</i>
Lavender	n/a
Muscari	As above
Nepeta	As above
Rosemary	As above
Salvia	As above
Salvia S	As above

These are all specifically scented plants for this design

# Planting Plan

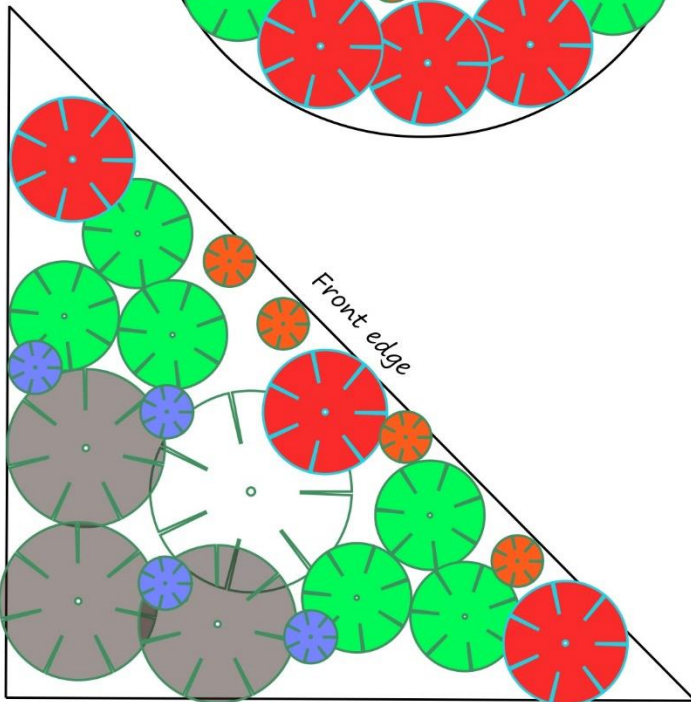


Circular border : 1.6m diameter

Square border : 1.4m x 1.4m

Triangular border : 2m x 2m x 2.8m

Rectangular border 2m x 1m



Lavender



Muscari x 5



Nepeta



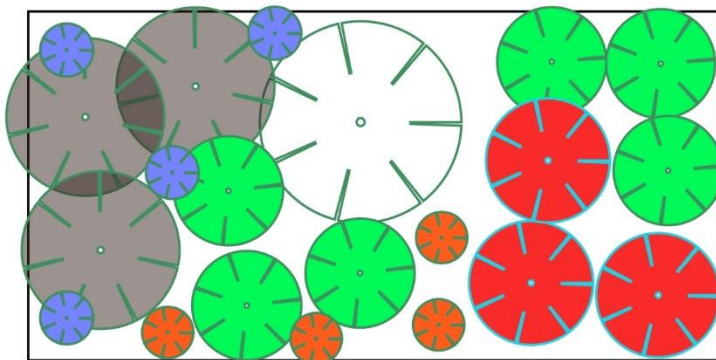
Rosemary



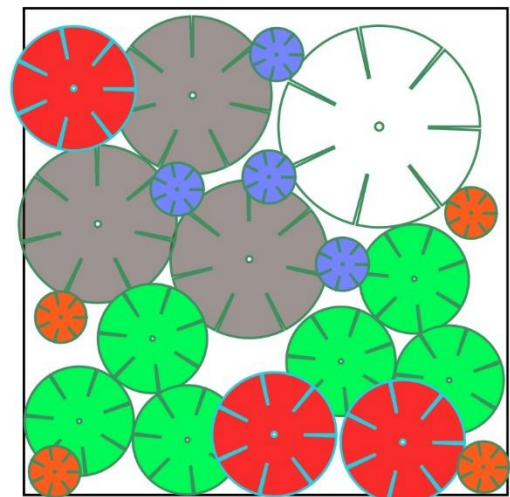
Salvia P



Salvia S

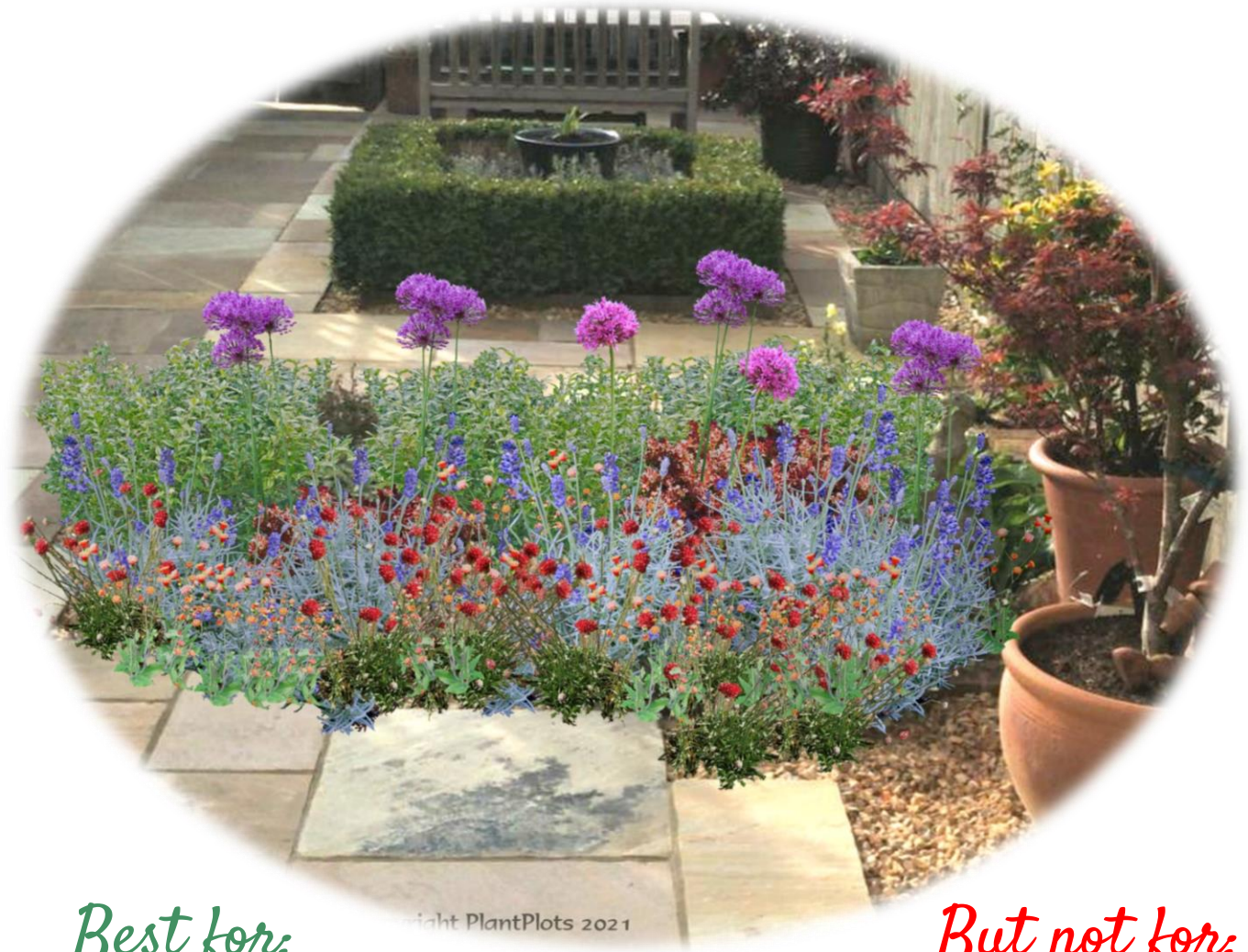


Front edge



Front edge

# Lollipops & Balls



## *Best for:*

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Sunny sites, attracting  
insects and summer scent

## *But not for:*

Damp wet heavy soil, deep  
shade or hayfever sufferers



copyright PlantPlots 2022

# Lollipops & Balls

Purples and deep reds mixed with balls of pzazz. A richly coloured scented border for making you smile..

Thank you for choosing this design for your garden. We would love to see the planted border, so please feel free to upload your pictures to our Facebook page.

<i>Plant</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Aftercare</i>
Allium 'Giganteumt'	3 bulbs	Think tall stately white pom-pom. Plant these bulbs 10 cm deep, don't forget where you planted them and dig them up by accident. Then sit back and wait for April!	The only thing you really need to do, is dry the seed heads and spray them silver or gold for Xmas decorations!
Allium Hollandicum	21 bulbd	Beautiful little dark purple drumsticks in summer – the bees love!	Non just plant and forget
Armeria 'Bloodstone'	6	Armeria for little carpets of green above which they throw up pompoms of flowers.	These love the sun tolerate drought and hate soggy bottoms, so will thrive in the baskets
Lavender 'Hidcote'	3	Lavenders love sun and hate soggy bottoms. If the soil stays really wet in winter, throw some stone in the base of the planting hole to help drainage.	Trim the spent flowers. Trim the lavender to the shape you want, but only trim the soft grey foliage.
Pittosporum 'Tom Thumb'	2	This is a deep purple shrub. The best purple colour comes with lots of sun. They are slow growing and need little maintenance.	Some pittosporums can get really big, so make sure it's the dwarf version, it might say Nana or Nanum. The new growth is bright green and then it goes purple. Just trim to shape. It is a little less hardy than the green variety though.
Skimmia Japonica Fragrans	1	This is another very common but underrated shrub. It flowers before everything else, so is a vital food source for bees. It is also fragrant, pretty and very well behaved!	Not much required, just trim to the shape and size you want really.

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# Plant Images



Allium G



Allium H



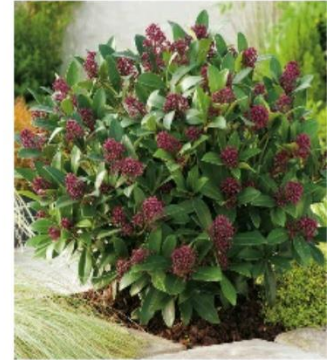
Armeria



Lavender



Pittosporum



Skimmia

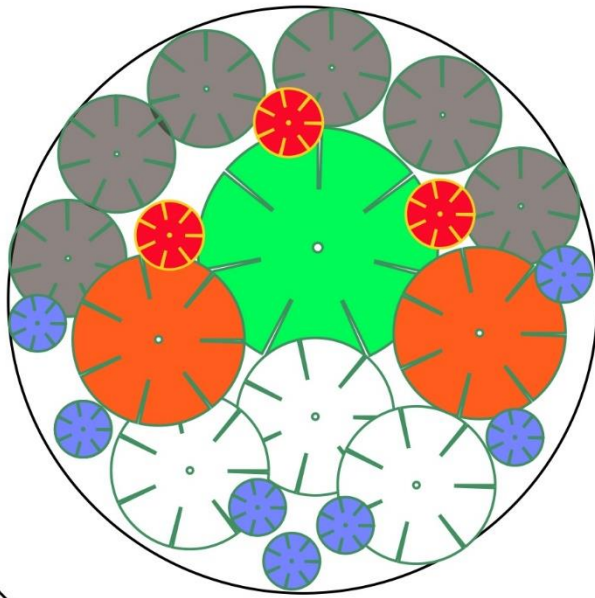
## Optional Plants:

Sanguisorba Tanna



<i>Plant</i>	<i>Alternative if applicable</i>
Allium G	n/a
Allium H	n/a
Armeria	n/a
Lavender	n/a
Pittosporum	Berberis Atropurpurea Nana
Skimmia	Myrtle

# Planting Plan



Circular border : 1.6m diameter

Square border : 1.4m x 1.4m

Triangular border : 2m x 2m x 2.8m

Rectangular border 2m x 1m



Allium G



Allium H x 3



Armeria



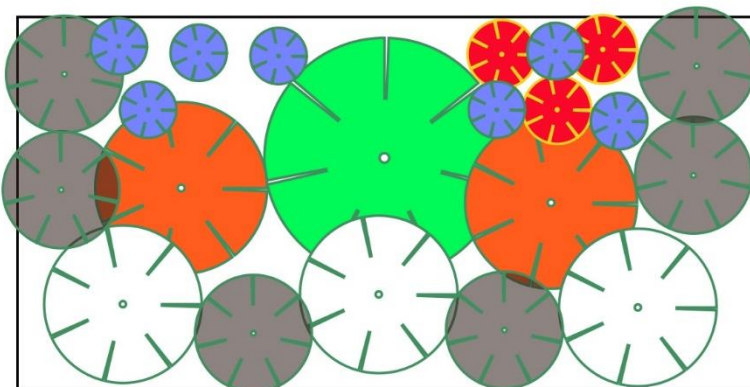
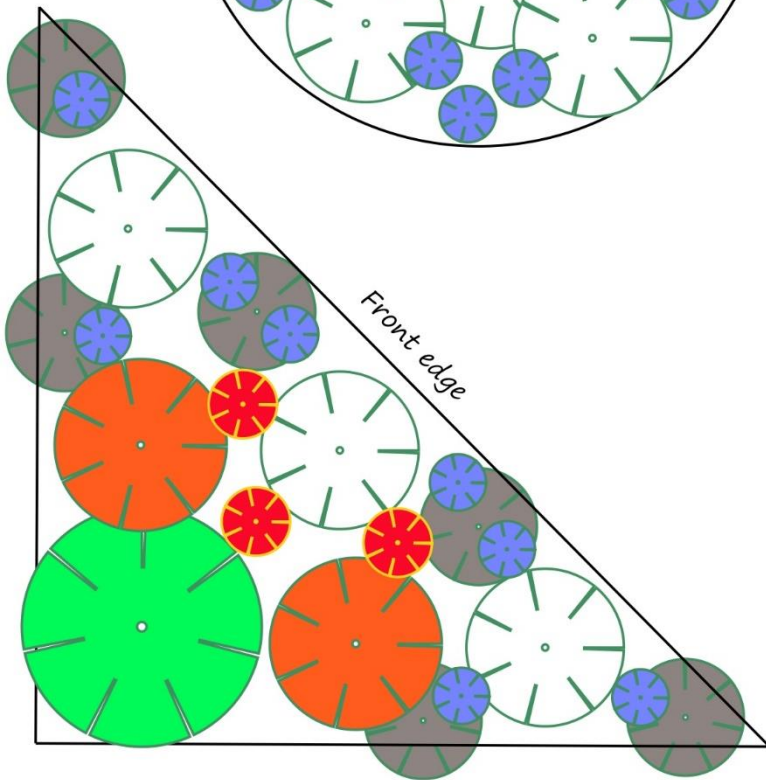
Lavender



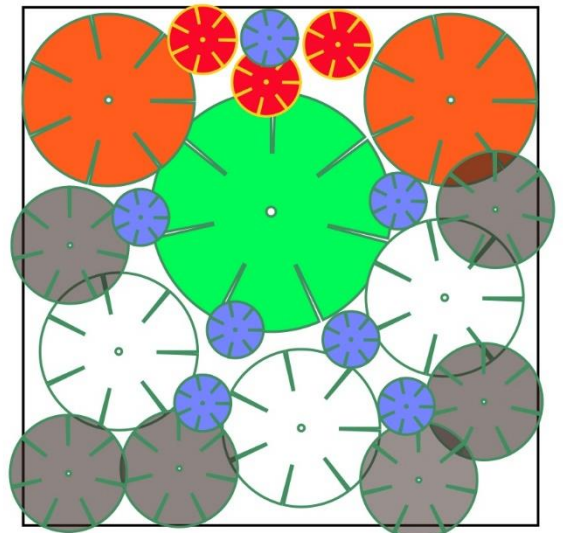
Pittosporum



Skimmia



Front edge



Front edge

# Prairies



## Best for:

Feeding your bees for  
most of the year and  
pretty flowers

## But not for:

Lots of shade, cold  
exposed sites, wet or heavy  
soils



# Prairies

All these plants will flower their socks off and provide food for the bees (and butterflies) for much of the year.

Thank you for choosing this design for your garden. We would love to see the planted border, so please feel free to upload your pictures to our Facebook page.

<i>Plant</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Aftercare</i>
Achillea 'Paprika'	3	Achilleas are fun loving happy flowers that are a magnet for butterflies and bees, this one is a lovely deep reddish pink	Very little maintenance required, just remove any tatty foliage and make sure it doesn't sit in soggy soil in winter.
Aster Thompsonii	3	Asters flower with oodles of very happy blue daisy like flowers in later summer. And this one has silvery blue foliage as well- Marvelous!	Plant this in a sunny site, but add some grit under the roots to aid drainage. Asters may need dividing every 2-3 years, but are pretty good at looking after themselves.
Deschampsia Cespitosa 'Goldtau'	6 can be split	This is a lovely grass that if planted en-masse creates a golden haze of seedheads.	Cut the grass down to near the base in late Feb, and it will regrow. Like all grasses this will self seed, so best not planted upwind of paths or patios
Pennisetum 'Hameln'	3 can be split	Pennisetums are a little more tender than most grasses. So, if we get a real Siberian cold snap, you may need to put the pot in a frost-free place and don't let the soil become waterlogged.	No maintenance is required apart from removing any old spent 'flower' stalks.
Rudbeckia 'Goldsturm'	3	These perennials will gradually spread, so over tie they will begin to fill up the borders. Extra plants can be 'got' free of charge, by lifting and moving elsewhere the spreading plants.	Rudbeckias die down in winter and emerge to flower in the late summer. Other than removing spent flower stalks in Feb, they require very little other maintenance.
Schizostylis Coccinea	15 bulbs	Aka the Kaffir Lily. Think sword like foliage topped with star shaped flowers in November.	Plant as a bulb, in a sunny well drained place and wait for when everything else has given up at the end of Summer - and these bulbs pop up and do their thing!
Verbena Bonariensis	3	Every garden should have these, bees love them, butterflies love them, humans love them - snails and other plant eating bugs hate them! So, a perfect plant really.	In late autumn, cut the plant back to the base and wait for spring. These do self-seed, but with these, more is definitely better!



# Plant Images



*Achillea*



*Aster*



*Deschampsia*



*Pennisetum*



*Rudbeckia*



*Schizostylis*



*Verbena*

## Optional Plants:

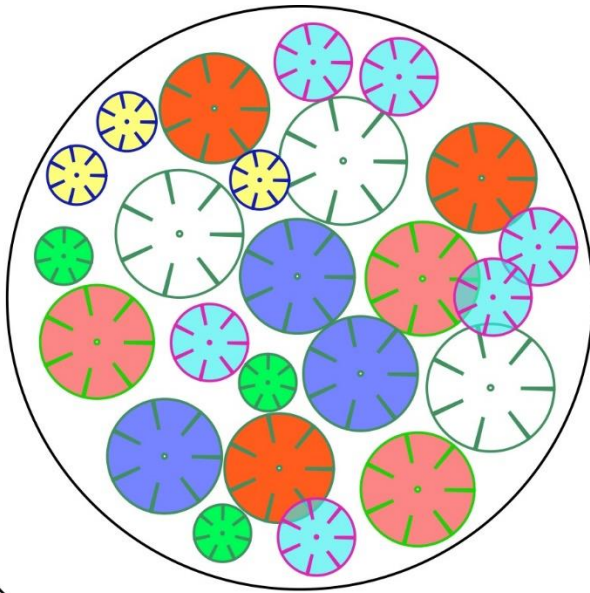
*Allium Sphaerocephalon*



<i>Plant</i>	<i>Alternative if applicable</i>
Achillea	Linum Grandiflorum Rubrum
Aster	Gypsophilia
Deschampsia	Stipa Tenuissima
Pennisetum	n/a
Rudbeckia	Echinacea White Swan
Schizostylis	Sedum Hester
Verbena	n/a

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# Planting Plan

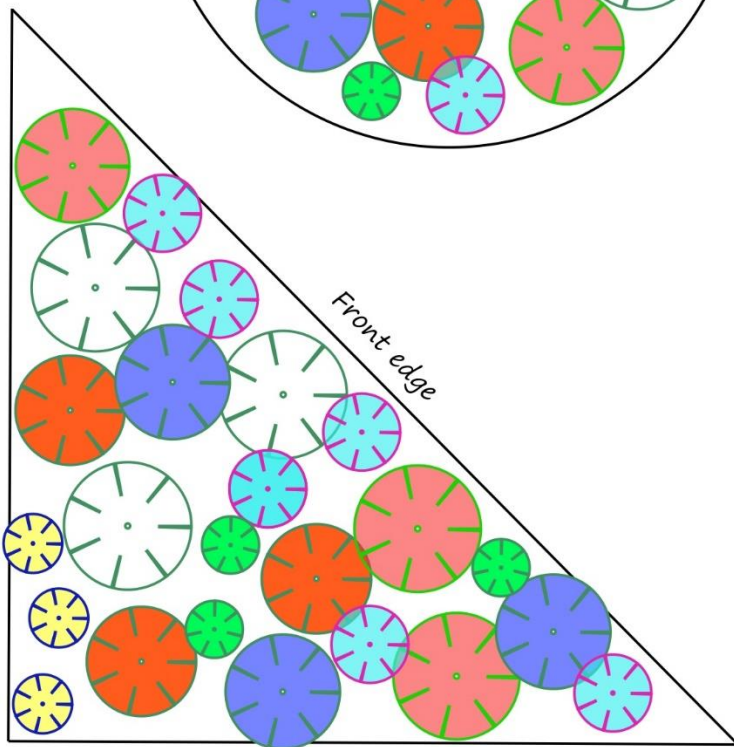


Circular border : 1.6m diameter

Square border : 1.4m x 1.4m

Triangular border : 2m x 2m x 2.8m

Rectangular border 2m x 1m



Achillea



Aster



Deschampsia



Pennisetum



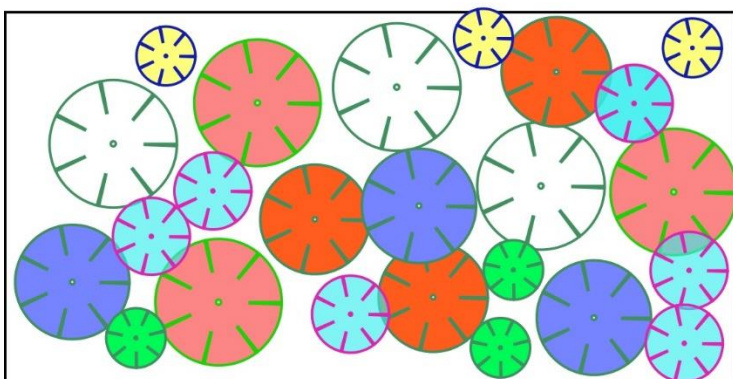
Rudbeckia



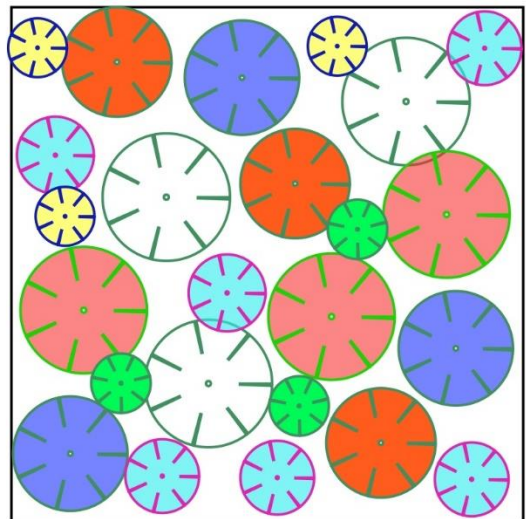
Schizostylis x 3



Verbena



Front edge



Front edge

# Towers of Feathers



## *Best for:*

Open spaces, poor soils,  
and sunny sites

## *But not for:*

Enriched soils, tight spaces  
or under trees



# Towers of Feathers

Tall willow plants that will dance with the wind.

Thank you for choosing this design for your garden. We would love to see the planted border, so please feel free to upload your pictures to our Facebook page.

<i>Plant</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Aftercare</i>
Calamagrostis Brachytrica	3 can be split	This loves poor soils and is shallow rooted (as are most grasses.) If you buy a large plant, you can split the clump into 2 or 3 smaller plants and plant these. It's a very tactile plant.	Don't enrich the soil before planting, grasses need to be treated mean to keep them keep. In Feb, grab hold of the spent flower stalks and wiggle them, the stalks should break off in your hand, leaving the new growth untouched. Pull gently though Calamagrostis have shallow roots.
Gladioli Byzantinuss	18 bulbs	These are not your Dame Edna variety of Gladi, but are instead beautiful elegant easy to grow stunning flowers	Once planted just forget them, and wait for the flowers in June
Pennisetum 'Fairy Tails'	3 can be split	A soft touchy-feely fluffy grass which looks beautiful in frost. You can buy 1 big one and split it into more plants very easily.	Don't cut this back till the spring, then 'comb' the grass through with a hand fork and remove the spent flower spikes. It might not survive really cold wet winters but should be fine in a more sheltered spot
Thalictrum Delavayi 'Hewitts Double'	3	This is a tall (may need staking) light and airy plant. It has beautifully delicate foliage and the flowers are best described as purple candy floss held 5 feet in the air	It may need little support to stay absolutely vertical, other than that, plant it, water it to start with, enjoy it and cut sown spent foliage in the winter as it dies back down.
Verbena Bonariensis	6 or so as seed	Every garden should have these, bees love them, butterflies love them, humans love them - snails and other plant eating bugs hate them! So, a perfect plant really.	In late autumn, cut the plant back to the base and wait for spring. These do self-seed, but with these, more is definitely better!

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# Plant Images



*Calamagrostis*



*Gladioli*



*Pennisetum*



*Thalictrum*



*Verbena*

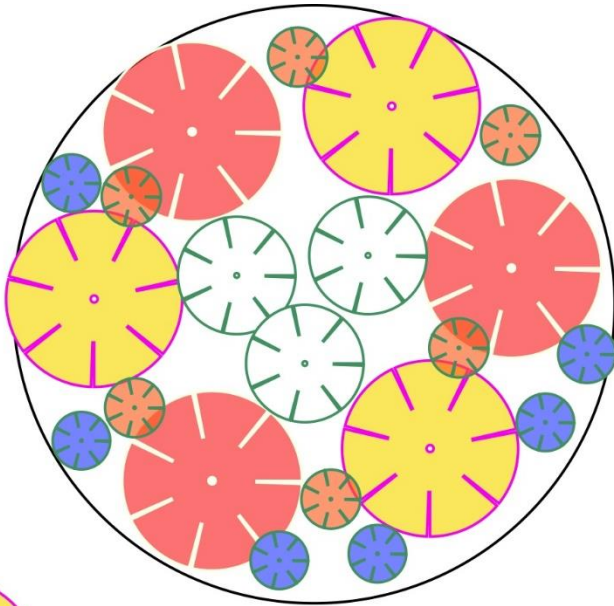
## Optional Plants:

*Gypsophilia*



<i>Plant</i>	<i>Alternative if applicable</i>
Calamagrostis	Molinia
Gladioli	n/a
Pennisetum	Iris
Thalictrum	n/a
Verbena	n/a

# Planting Plan

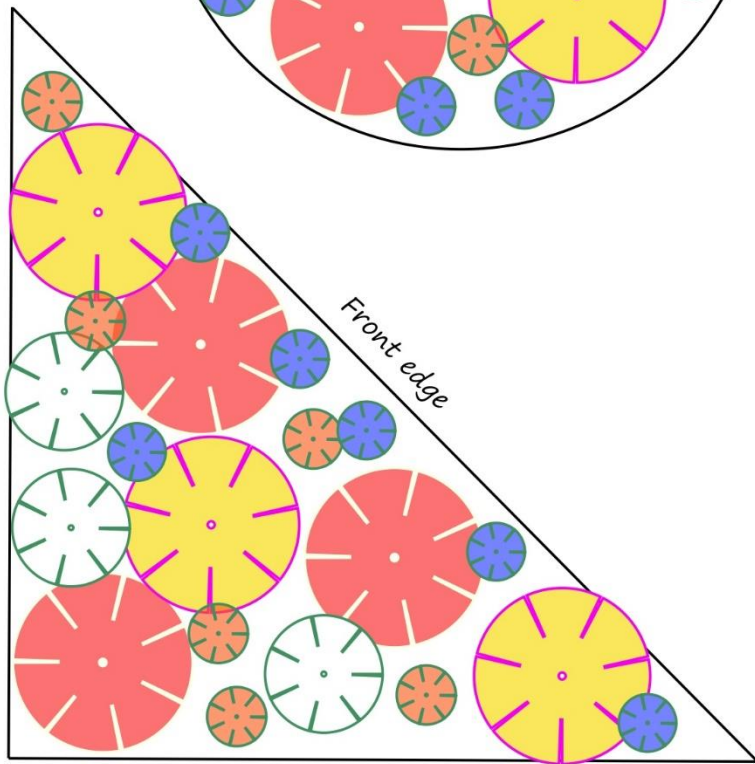


Circular border : 1.6m diameter

Square border : 1.4m x 1.4m

Triangular border : 2m x 2m x 2.8m

Rectangular border 2m x 1m



*Calamagrostis*



*Gladioli x 3*



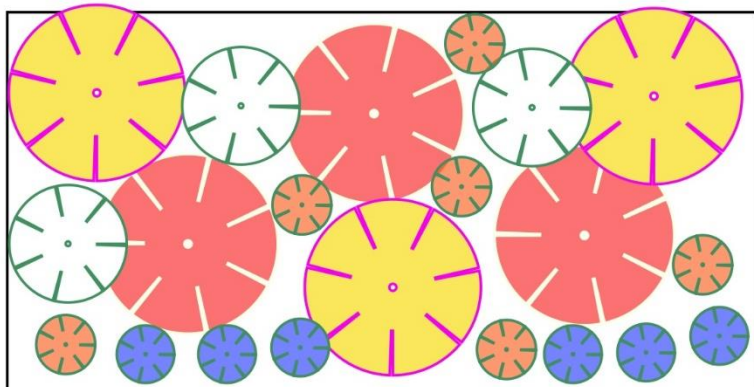
*Pennisetum*



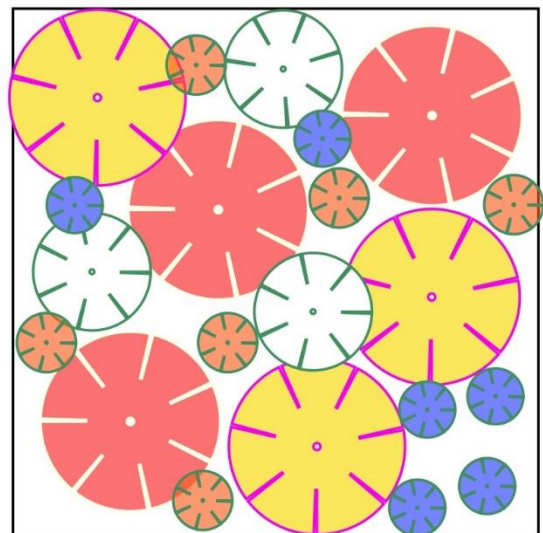
*Thalictrum*



*Verbena*



Front edge



Front edge

## *Digging & preparing your plot.*

Time taken getting the ground right will save hours later, so dig it over, remove all the old roots and weeds you can find.

Take the trouble to add some compost to the soil before adding the plants. They will start to grow stronger and better in the right environment. Good soil is dark, crumbly and smells earthy. You should be able to push your fork or trowel all the way in, if you can't, dig down further and break all the clods up with a fork or rake.

If you can push your trowel in, the plants can push roots through the earth easily too. Once you have dug the bed, rake it over to smooth out the lumps.

created garden. We want you to have plants that work well together and look good, so like any redecoration, it's best to:

'out with the old and in with the new'.

But plants are expensive so don't just get rid of the old ones (unless they are not worth saving of course), replant them elsewhere in the garden or bag them up and give them to your family or friends.



### *Planting Instructions:*

Always dig a hole slightly bigger than the pot and then place the plant in the hole. Press firmly in and then water thoroughly. If the site is in full sun, fill the unplanted hole with water and plant after the water has drained away.

Do remember to water well for the first season. Water the soil around the plant and count to at least 10 before moving on to the next plant. When planting bulbs, don't cheat, if it says 10cm deep, then it needs to be 10 cm deep. Oh, and plant bulbs with the pointy end facing upwards.

If sowing seeds, make a shallow straight groove in the soil, water the soil, then sow the seeds and gently pop the earth back on top. Sow in short straight lines as it's easier to identify any weed seeds that pop up – they won't be in a straight line.

Happy gardening!

# And finally..

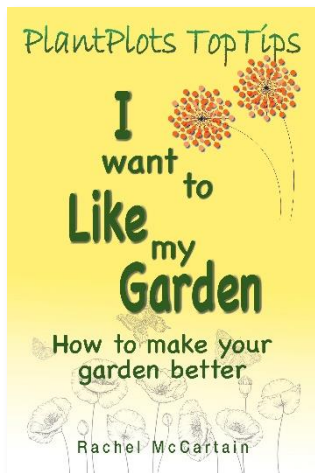
## Did you know..

We can design your garden without even visiting you! Our design service is pretty unique, we create designs for all the garden or just the bit you need help with. You simply send us some photos and then we have a chat over the phone.. and after some thinking tea (at our end) we send you a design plan.

Call today for a free no obligation quote.



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By Rachel McCartain  
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It really is a garden  
changer

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Available on Apple and other Podcast  
providers

20 minute Podcasts ; advice that  
really helps you garden better!

## And lastly thank you

Your custom is appreciated,  
so thank you.

I hope you enjoy creating and  
planting this design, do please send  
some photo's. I would really love to  
see your garden.

Kind regards

Rachel



If you need some  
advice contact  
[rachel@plantplots.com](mailto:rachel@plantplots.com)

