

Plant List for Love in Bloom

Obviously, where you live determines what plants to use. We're going to give you a general list to show your landscaper or nursery. We strongly recommend you show them your Love in Bloom Design Plan and get their recommendations also.

Let's start in the center of the circular wall surrounding the pond. Basically, you have five showcase Japanese Maples around the circle. Some of our favorites are Fireglow, Seiryu, Beni Shichihenge, Butterfly, Crimson Queen, Inazuma, Beni Maiko, Bloodgood, and Shin DeShojo. Underneath each of these plant several Blue Rug Junipers about 3 feet apart. To complete the inner circle plant bulbs like Tulips and Daffodils to pop up through the Blue Rugs. Also, plant lots of flowering annuals like Wave Petunias, Geraniums, Pansies, and Mums. Try perennials like Daylilies and Black Eyed Susan.

Around the outer circle you have three collections. One is an Althea collection. Plant five different Altheas. Try white Diana, purple Minerva, or Blue Bird. There is a huge variety available. Between them plant Densiflora Yew or a Juniper if you like. In front of the Altheas, to hide their bare branches, plant Variegated Hydrangea or Variegated Weigela.

Collection number two is Azaleas and Rhododendrons. There are more varieties than we can name here. Just pick up what you like and plant three of each in a group. Green Liriope underneath them as a ground cover would look great! A nice alternative would be a Butterfly Bush collection for loads of butterflies.

The third collection is Roses. Plant as many different kinds as you want! Plant them about two feet apart. Try planting some Walkers Low Catmint around their bases.

Up and over your arbor/swing plant a thornless Rose like Zepherine Drouhine. Plant a couple of white Henryi Clematis to grow in with it. Around the paver pad, Caladiums are good, but flowering annuals or Coleus would work, too.



Plant List for Love in Bloom (continued)

In the hammock corner you need some shade. Plant three red Sunset Maples or even Tulip Poplars for quick shade. Plant Hydrangeas out front with annuals at the corners. Fill the back corner with PJM Rhododendrons, and put Wine and Roses Weigela on each end. You want three different types of flowering shrubs around your hammock. Forsythia, Althea, Lilac, or Crape Myrtles would also work.

In the other back corner, with the two benches on the stone patio, plant a special tree; something with an interesting branch structure like Dogwood, Redbud, or Japanese Maple. Even a Birch would do. Use two tall Crape Myrtles like white Natchez to rise above the Knockout Shrub Roses. In the corner, Nandina Domestica would be perfect for its colorful leaves and red berries. Put some Plantanginea or Guacamole Hosta under the tree. Line the walk with annuals or perennials. Daylilies would be gorgeous here!

In the front corners by your house, plant tall evergreens for privacy. Hicks Yews or Foster Holly would work well around the hot tub room especially. Plant a few flowering shrubs like Butterfly Bush, Weigela, or Virginia Sweetspire. Plant Rose Glow Barberries in the corner behind and underneath the large tree. Each year plant a Caladium collection and a Coleus collection along the front of the bed.

And to finish off your garden, plant three large Crape Myrtles (or Lilacs) with Blue rug Junipers under them along the entrance to your yard; and plant a lot of short Crape Myrtles or Nandinas around your fountain.

In your various containers, we recommend using the “thriller, filler, spiller” concept. Have a dramatic, tall center plant. Plant several fillers around its base, and add plants that run or spill over the edge. Another favorite way to plant containers is to use one plant in several colors. For instance, plant purple Petunias in one, pink in another, and white in another.

Have fun and love your Love in Bloom!

