

HOW TO



succeed with Plants for SHADY SITES



Almost every garden has a difficult shady area. Areas of shade are good things in gardens for they help to create atmosphere. Shady areas can be cool, restful and exude an air of tranquillity. Certainly shade is not the problem that many gardeners imagine, for it allows the growing of shade loving plants to perfection. All-In-One stocks a wide range of plants suitable for difficult dry or moist conditions.

DRY SHADE

Usually dry shade can be caused by hedges and overhanging trees which actively draw moisture from the soil. Organic matter such as peat or bark incorporated into the soil or mulched around the base of established plants will help the situation. In dry spells, regular heavy watering will also be beneficial.

Plants suitable for these areas include Aucubas, Euonymus, Hollies, Skimmias and some of the tougher Ferns like the Male Fern (*Dryopteris Felix Mas*) and the common Polypody (*Polypodium Vulgare*). Shrubs can also be underplanted with Hardy Cyclamen which thrive in dry shade and naturalise themselves fairly easily.

MOIST SHADE

If the shady area has permanently moist soil, this offers the fortunate gardener an extremely wide range of desirable plants. Quite a feature could be made of this, with a selection flowering and foliage shrubs and perennials and drifts of suitable bulbs. Most of these plants require plenty of humus in the soil, so incorporation of peat or bark will be beneficial. Attractive flowers in winter are provided by Mahonias followed by Azaleas and Camellias in Spring with its young scarlet shoots. Attractive foliage is provided by Ferns, Pachysandra, Ajuga and Hostas. The total range of plants you can grow successfully will be increased and with careful selection of plants, the shady parts of your garden can become assets to the gardens overall effect.

DRY SHADE

Perennials

Acanthus mollis
Ajuga
Alchemilla mollis
Euphorbia
Geranium macrorrhizum
Geranium phaeum
Helleborus foetidus
Lamium
Ophiopogon
Saxifraga
Tolmiea
Vinca
Waldsteinia
Asplenium (Fern)
Polypodium (Fern)
Polystichum (Fern)

Shrubs

Aucuba
Euonymus
Fatsia
Hypericum
Skimmia
Vinca

MOIST SHADE

Perennials

Convallaria
Corydalis flexhosa
Trillium
Bergenia
Brunnera
Dicentra
Hosta
Primula
Pulmonaria
Tiarella
Matteuccia (Fern)
Osmunda (Fern)
Onoclea (Fern)

Shrubs

Azalea
Buxus
Camellia
Hydrangea
Kerria
Mahonia
Pachysandra
Pieris
Prunus laurocerasus (Laurel)
Rhododendron
Viburnum
Vinca