

Village Garden Center & Landscape Service

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By Eva Soued



All about Hydrangea's

Changing your Hydrangea Colors is so Easy with Color Me Pink™ & Color Me Blue



Color Me Pink™ gives you the ability to produce pink hydrangea blooms by adding the natural minerals that your soil needs to produce the big pink blooms that you love. Simply add the Color Me Pink™ garden lime pellets to the soil around your plants, and enjoy the pink blooms! For established hydrangeas, apply 2 scoops (4 Tablespoons) of Color Me Pink™ garden lime evenly around the roots of your plants and water well. If you are applying the product to new hydrangeas, mix in 1 scoop (2 Tablespoons) with the soil as you plant.

Color Me Blue™ gives you the ability to produce blue hydrangea blooms by adding the natural minerals that acidifies your soil to produce the big blue blooms that you love. Simply add the Color Me Blue™ soil sulphur pellets to your soil around your plants, and enjoy the blue blooms! For established hydrangeas, apply 6 scoops (1/2 cup) of Color Me Blue™ soil sulphur evenly around the roots of your hydrangeas and water well. If you are applying the product to new hydrangeas, mix in 3 scoops (1/4 cup) with the soil as you plant.

Identify your hydrangeas

There are six main types of hydrangeas commonly grown in North American gardens.



Bigleaf - CITYLINE® Rio Hydrangea



Lacecap flower form

Big Leaf Hydrangea

There are more than 500 known cultivars of bigleaf hydrangeas in the nursery trade. They are divided into two main groups: the hortensias with large snowball-like flower clusters, and the lacecapes, which generally have somewhat flat-top flowers, with fertile, non-showy flowers in the center and more showy sterile flowers on the outside.

Location:

Big leaf hydrangea prefers morning sun, afternoon shade and moist, well-drained soil. Avoid planting it on hot, dry, exposed sites. Cold damage to the buds may occur in winter and late spring, so be prepared to provide some winter protection by covering the plant with an old sheet, blanket or cardboard container when temperatures drop below freezing. A cylinder of chicken wire placed around the plant and filled with leaves also provides excellent cold protection.

Big leaf hydrangea can easily be grown in containers and is an excellent patio plant. Another advantage of growing the plant in a container is that it can be moved indoors on a cold night. Also known as forist's hydrangea, hortensia, mophead, or lacecap. *Hydrangea macrophylla*

Hardy to USDA zone 5

Bloom on old wood: do not prune, protect in winter

Proven Winners® varieties include:

Abracadabra® series, Cityline® series, Edgy® series, Let's Dance® series, Paraplu™

Problems

No serious insect or disease problems. Some susceptibility to bud blight, bacterial wilt, leaf spot and mildew. Aphids are occasional visitors.

Garden Uses

Group or mass in the shrub border. Also a good specimen or accent for foundations and other locations near homes or patios. Hedge.

Height: 6 to 10 feet

Spread: 6 to 10 feet

Hydrangea macrophylla

Bloomstruck

Bloomstruck, the newest addition to the Endless Summer Collection, lives up to the promise of Endless Blooms, and then some. This reblooming mophead flowers on old and new wood and has perfectly rounded flowers averaging 3.5 - 5" across. The intense rose-pink, violet or blue flower heads are held upright on striking red-purple stems. Flowers are violet-blue to blue in acidic soil. Glossy dark green leaves with red petioles and red veins add to this plant's presence and make it stand out before flowers ever open.

Hardy to -30°F



END SUMMER BLUSHING BRIDE HYDRANGEA

Dark, glossy green foliage makes the perfect canvas for the lovely, repeat, white, mophead blooms that bloom spring through fall. Blooms are a lovely blush pink or blue depending upon the soil acidity. Reaches 3 to 6 feet tall and wide. A wonderful addition to any garden.

Hardiness Zone:

USDA Z4 - Cold Hardy to -20 to -30(F)

Sun Exposure:

Partial Shade

Star Gazer Double Delights Hydrangea

A compact lacecap cultivar that typically grows to 3-4' tall and to 3-5' wide. It is part of the DOUBLE DELIGHTS SERIES. It typically blooms on old wood in late spring with repeat bloom on new wood from summer often into fall if spent flowers are regularly deadheaded. Each lace cap inflorescence features a mass of small fertile flowers surrounded by large double flowers on long petioles. It is a rebloomer that produces flowers in spring on old wood (flower buds are produced the previous fall and overwintered) and a repeat bloom of flowers from summer into fall on new wood. If old growth buds do not survive winter, plants will still bloom summer to fall, albeit less floriferously, on the new growth.

Spent flowers should be regularly deadheaded. Flower color ranges from blue with white picotee edges to pink with white picotee edges.



Hydrangea macrophylla 'HMUPSI'
Hydrangea, Seaside Serenade® Cape Cod

A new classic for small spaces! Hardy, repeat blooming machine with big, mophead flowers, extra-dark green leaves, and a neat, mounded form. Perfect for foundations and borders. Harvest blooms for long-lasting cut floral arrangements. Blue florets in acidic soils, or pink in neutral to alkaline soils. New for 2017.

Deciduous.

Height: 4 ft Spread: 4 ft Hardiness Zone: 4 - 9

Hydrangea, Seaside Serenade® Cape Cod Growing and Maintenance Tips

Provide enriched, evenly moist, well-drained soil. Follow a regular watering schedule during the first growing season to establish a deep, extensive root system. Bloom color is influenced by soil and water pH; a local garden center can recommend regionally suitable amendments. Prune spent flowers to promote repeat bloom.



Hydrangea macrophylla
Everlasting® Jade 'Hortmaja' (Bigleaf Hydrangea)

A reblooming hydrangea, Everlasting Jade makes a lovely garden plant and cut flower with its soft green and cream flowers. As the blooms open, they turn from apple to white with lime green markings and when the nights turn cooler, the blooms turn celery green with deep red edges and they stay that way until a hard frost!

From the Everlasting series of Hydrangeas, which have incredibly strong stems so they do not flop and they rebloom!

Height: 3 Feet Zone: 5

L.A. Dreamin'® Hydrangea

Produces all shades of blooms on a single plant!

Full Description

A single hydrangea plant can transform a landscape, bringing it to life with shape, substance, handsome foliage and prodigious flowering. Now add a serene blast of colorful blooms—in shades of blue, pink and everything in-between. Hardy 60" plant is a standout: producing the luminous bloom colors without inputs of aluminum sulfate or special fertilizer. Sun, part shade.



Hydrangea Blue Enchantress,
Bigleaf Hydrangea

Get ready to be completely mesmerized by the exquisite re-blooming Blue Enchantress Hydrangea. It offers a summer-long display of vivid color—the most incredible blue when planted in acidic soil, or sweetheart pink in alkaline soil. Its ruby-black stems and luscious green foliage add to its intoxicating charms. The big mophead flowers are long lasting and extraordinary in cut flower arrangements. This rounded shrub grows in sun to dappled shade, in the ground or in a container. Its large pink or blue mophead flowers bloom in late spring and again late summer into fall. Plants grow 3-5' tall and wide.



Next Generation Pistachio Hydrangea
Hydrangea macrophylla 'Horwack'

An exciting new color combo for Hydrangeas! Re-blooming, mounded Pistachio features stunning flowers with extraordinary and variable coloration. Sturdy blooms of Green to Rosy red with purple centers from Spring through Autumn. A sure eye-catcher for any landscape!

Hydrangea macrophylla
Everlasting® Revolution

A small-scale, reblooming Hydrangea that offers a kaleidoscope of changing color! Each blossom lasts for weeks, gradually creating fascinating combinations of light and dark pinks (or blues with a more acid pH) and pale green. Planted in sun to part shade, you'll enjoy these large, showy summertime flowers. Ideal for smaller garden spaces. 'Hokomarevo'



Endless Summer® Twist-n-Shout Hydrangea



Lacy deep-pink centers are surrounded by gorgeous blossoms of pink or periwinkle blue, depending on soil type, blooms on both old and new wood all summer long; sturdy red stems, glossy deep green leaves turn red in fall to offer year-round interest

This is one of the most cold-hardy species. It may be grown as a single-stemmed specimen or as a multi-stemmed shrub.

Grow in moist, but well-drained soil, in sun to partial shade. *H. paniculata* blooms on the current season's wood; it may be cut back to a few buds to form a framework in spring to produce larger flowers, or allowed to grow with minimal pruning.

Bobo® Hardy Hydrangea
Hydrangea paniculata

A new dwarf hydrangea that is sure to turn heads! Reaching to just three feet tall, it will be engulfed by enormous creamy white flowers in summer, providing a nonstop show until frost. Blossoms are held upright on strong stems, and continue to grow and lengthen as they bloom. In fall, flowers may turn a pinkish hue. An undeniable asset to any garden, particularly where space is limited



Hydrangea paniculata Bombshell



A garden breakthrough! This compact growth habit to about 3 feet tall and wide at maturity. Covered in white flowers against medium green to dark green foliage from early Summer until frost, this cultivar has more flowers per plant than any other Hydrangea. It is low maintenance with little to no pruning needed to keep the plant compact and tidy.

Diamond Rouge hydrangea

Diamond Rouge Hydrangea (*Hydrangea paniculata*) is a real innovation! It is, without a doubt, the reddest paniculata hydrangea available to the home gardener today. This plant is spectacular in bloom from June to October. In late June the flowers on Diamond Rouge emerge pristine white. They change to pink as they age and then turn a delicious shade of raspberry red.

Finally they turn a deep wine red from August to the first frost.

This fantastic red flower color lasts well into fall and hydrangea flowers are some of the best for drying for winter color. (Like most hydrangeas, color can be affected by soil PH, so check your soil before you



Hydrangea paniculata Fire Light

Upright panicles are more round in shape and transform from pure white to pink to rich pomegranate. A medium height, hardy performer destined to be the new standard. Thick sturdy stems will keep their stature in the garden border or container



Hydrangea paniculata Little Lime

For such a small plant it is packed with a vigorous growth habit, hardiness, drought tolerance, and thrives in all climates, hot or cold. Developed so you can fit it in any spot in your garden, this easy to grow, widely adaptable and popular Little Lime is not difficult to fit into your landscape plans. It matures to 3'-5' with an equal spread. It produces huge 8" green flowers that are held atop strong, non-flopping stems. The cut blooms are perfect in floral arrangements or can be dried for long term. Blooming on new wood, this new compact hybrid has flowers that last over 16 weeks in the garden or 3 weeks as cut flowers!

Flowering begins in mid-summer and continues through fall. It begins as a pale lime green in mid-summer, then pink, fading to beige in winter, independent of the pH of your soil.

In the dog days of mid summer, when even the annuals are beginning to droop, 'Limelight' comes to the rescue, reviving the garden and gardener with an ice cream parlor's worth of outsized, pistachio-hued floral cones. The show continues on into fall, too, when the flowers gradually blush to a rich, deep pink. Fast growing, 'Limelight' makes a shrub 7' tall, and like all the Paniculata Hydrangeas, it is outstandingly cold hardy, over-wintering successfully in USDA Zone 3. Because Paniculata Hydrangeas bloom on new growth, they typically flower normally even if the twigs have been killed back by frost. Plant in a sunny, well-drained spot; some early afternoon shade is beneficial in hot southern regions. Prune in late winter or early spring.

Hydrangea paniculata 'Limelight'



Pinky Winky® Hardy Hydrangea



Pinky Winky™ Hydrangea, *Hydrangea paniculata* has astonishingly large blossoms that grow up to 14" in length. Each floret has nearly double the petals of other hydrangeas, giving the plant a fuller bodied look.

The thick stems support the large blossoms. The flower heads continue to grow throughout the season and as the older flowers turn dark pink the new flowers continue to emerge white. The effect is stunning.

This hydrangea blooms on new wood so it can be pruned in the fall or early spring. Pinky Winky is a deciduous shrub with a moderate to fast growth habit which grows 6-8 feet in height and width and prefers full sun.

Quick Fire® Hydrangea

Quick Fire Hydrangea blooms mid-summer through fall, resplendent in its color-changing coat of first white, then pink, before finally deepening to a rosy-pink hue. The vibrant green of the foliage fills out the space between the blossoms, completing the ornamental picture in your landscape.

Your Quick Fire Hydrangea is a deciduous shrub that will grow 6-8 feet tall with an equal spread. It's adaptable to a variety of soil types and the flowers aren't affected by soil PH. Quick Fire is very hardy, often thought of as one of the easiest hydrangea varieties to grow.



Strawberry Sundae™ Hydrangea

Strawberry Sundae™ is a delicious new compact hydrangea. Flowers emerge creamy white in mid-summer, change to pink as night temperatures drop and finally to strawberry red. The fantastic flower color lasts well into fall. With its compact habit, this hydrangea adds spectacular color and impressive flowers to small space gardens or containers. It is also excellent for fresh cut and dried flower arrangements.

Vanilla Strawberry Hydrangea

The blooms begin as a creamy white and then turn to an irresistible pink and finally a deep red to burgundy. Since the flowers bloom throughout the Spring and Summer, you'll get all 3 colors on the plant at the same time.

As the cooler months set in, the blooms turn an interesting parchment color. The stems can vary in color and sometimes present a bright red, making a unique contrast against the flowers. After the mesmerizing spring and summer, you'll be impressed by how the Vanilla Strawberry Hydrangea still adds even more visual appeal to your landscape in the winter.

Growing to 6' to 8', the Vanilla Strawberry Hydrangea makes the perfect companion to small and large plants alike. You can add interest and contrast to any space in your yard. The blooms stay fresh for a while after cutting, so they make wonderful additions to your floral arrangements or home décor.

The Vanilla Strawberry Hydrangea isn't finicky, so you don't have to worry about annoying upkeep. This plant simply wants to soak up the sun and show off its stunning beauty. Pruning is totally up to you with this tall growing hydrangea.

This is the most winter hardy hydrangea.

The flowers bloom on each season's new growth, so frost won't hurt this durable plant.



Hydrangea paniculata Zinfin Doll

Pink and white two-toned blooms!

A beautiful new hardy hydrangea with loads of bodacious blooms that emerge pure white and then turn bright pink from the bottom up. Flowers eventually age to a dark pink-red, and stay colorful for months. It looks a bit like classic Pinky Winky hydrangea, but with full, mophead flowers, and it blooms much earlier, too. Strong stems hold the flowers upright in the garden, and make it an excellent cut flower, too.

Top three reasons to grow Zinfin Doll panicle hydrangea:

- Large, colorful mophead blooms appear earlier in summer than other varieties
- Blooms every year, no matter how harsh winter was
- Provides 3+ months of flowers



Care for Hydrangeas in Pots

With clusters of colorful flowers and big, dramatic leaves, hydrangeas (*Hydrangea* spp.) are an old-fashioned stunner. With diligent care, even the space-challenged can grow hydrangeas in containers, as several shrubby varieties reach heights of 2 to 6 feet. Most varieties grow in U.S. Department of Agriculture plant hardiness zones 4 through 8, with some hardy to USDA zone 3

Water

Although hydrangeas may tolerate dry soil for a short time, they require a generous amount of water to perform their best. Dry potting soil may result in stress and dropping of leaves. This is especially true of container-grown hydrangeas because the soil dries out quickly. Hydrangeas grown in full sunlight require more water than hydrangeas exposed to afternoon shade. Hydrangeas must be planted in containers with a drainage hole and a lightweight, well-draining potting soil because poorly drained soil may result in rot and other diseases. To water hydrangeas, water deeply until water runs through the drainage hole. Always water immediately if the plant begins to look wilted.

Sun Exposure

Light requirements vary depending on the variety. Panicle hydrangea (*Hydrangea paniculata*), also known as peegee hydrangea, and smooth hydrangea (*Hydrangea arborescens*), thrive and bloom their best in full sun and may become leggy and unattractive with too much shade. Oakleaf hydrangea (*Hydrangea quercifolia*), and bigleaf hydrangea (*Hydrangea macrophylla*), benefit from afternoon shade, especially in climates with hot summers. Too much sun may scorch the blooms and cause the leaves to sag.

Fertilizing

Hydrangeas benefit from an application of a general-purpose, controlled-release fertilizer in spring. Usually, one annual application is enough to sustain the plant, as too much fertilizer may create a lush, fast-growing plant with few blooms. Too much fertilizer can also make the plant more susceptible to damage by insects. Apply a second application in midsummer if growth appears slow or if the foliage appears pale. Alternatively, hydrangea benefits from more frequent applications of a general-purpose, water-soluble fertilizer in place of controlled-release fertilizer. Because rate of application varies, it's critical to read the label carefully for specific instructions.

Pruning

Prune and shape bigleaf hydrangea as soon as blooming stops in midsummer. Although oakleaf hydrangea rarely requires pruning, light shaping is best done after the blooms begin to fade in late summer. Prune peegee hydrangea and smooth hydrangea more drastically by cutting the plant down to 6 to 12 inches from the ground in early spring. Both can also remain unpruned, as blooms will develop on the new growth. All hydrangeas benefit from deadheading, which involves removal of blooms as soon as they wilt. Deadheading promotes continued blooming and keeps the plant tidy.



How do I protect my potted plants in winter?

If possible, find a small spot in the garden or yard to relocate your plants temporarily for the winter. Plant them directly in the ground. You can even bury them, pot and all. After you put them in the ground, add a nice, thick layer of mulch for extra insulation.



hydrangea cupcakes

From the Garden of Eva

To make them, I used these chocolate cupcakes with whipped vanilla frosting (I left the vanilla bean out of the frosting for aesthetic reasons). I colored about 1/3 of the frosting with AmeriColor food coloring in Sky Blue, then added a tiny drop of Violet and mixed it until it was still a bit streaky, to give it some depth. To pipe the flowers, I used a large closed star tip (like a Wilton 2D tip). I smeared the blue frosting around the edges of the piping bag, then filled the center with white. After that, you just pipe large star shapes around the edge of the cupcake and then into the center, and voila! A hydrangea.

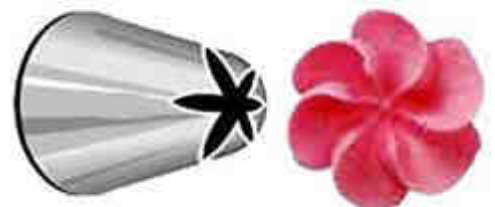


Or bake a cake any flavor and add the flowers.



Your basic American-style buttercream recipe (i.e. butter, powdered sugar, milk), but with the added ingredients of a cup of cream cheese, a teaspoon vanilla extract, and just a less than a table spoon of cream so that the frosting stays nice and firm. Make sure the frosting is cold, not room temperature so that the shapes stay Nice.

Colored half of the frosting blue, and the other half purple, or be creative



You will need this handy piece: a Wilton large closed star 2D tip.

Naturally, dry Hydrangeas

What you will need:

A selection of ready-to-harvest Hydrangea blossoms, garden shears, water, and a decorative glass vessel.

Step ONE:

- Forage in your garden. The best time to harvest your flowers is late morning, just after the dew has evaporated from the leaves. Select flowers that have lost their softness and have begun to change colors. Choose only the best flowers, since drying will emphasize imperfections. If the flowers have movement they are not ready yet. Quick tip. Blue, purple and pink flowers will retain the best color when dried.

Step TWO:

- Cut the stem at least 12 to 18 inches down from the base of the flower, remove all leaves from the stem.

Step THREE:

- Place the cut flowers into a deep clear vessel filled half-way with fresh water. All stems should be submerged several inches.

Step FOUR:

- Place in a cool, dry area away from direct sunlight yet somewhere you can enjoy the view.

Step FIVE:

- Allow the water to evaporate naturally from the vase. The timing is dependent upon the particular variety and conditions like humidity, temperature, and air circulation. Most flowers will take somewhere between 10 to 30 days. Once the water has completely gone, your Hydrangeas should be dry and ready to use for any floral or winter interest decorations. You will know they are properly dry when they feel stiff and the stems snap easily. Quick tip. Spray with aerosol hair spray to limit any messiness in the house if you are going to use them for indoor displays and or projects.



Tuff Stuff™ Reblooming Mountain Hydrangea



This fantastic new hardy, reblooming Hydrangea will provide months of enjoyment in the garden! Lovely reddish-pink lacecap flowers create a mass of color in early summer, and continue to bloom right up until frost. The semi-double to double florets begin with creamy coloration in the center before maturing to intense pink. Flowers may shift to blue in acidic soils. Deciduous.
(RED)

Tiny Tuff Stuff™ Hydrangea

Perfect for even the smallest city or townhouse garden, patio containers, the mixed border or massed.

Full Description

These plants are diminutive, no more than 18-24" tall and wide, perfect for even the smallest city or townhouse garden, patio containers, the mixed border or massed. The "Tuff Stuff" part of the name refers to the very hardy flower buds which promise a reliable display of elegant, lacecap blooms with a distinctive arching habit. The flowers appear in delicate pink and white shades that age to an attractive pink, but they also can turn blue in acidic soils. Blooms on new and old wood, starting in late spring, then repeats throughout the summer into fall. Tolerates full sun, prefers part shade in warmer climates.



Golden Crane® Hydrangea Hydrangea angustipetala 'MonLongShou'

This rare and precocious shrub, with large lacecaps of white and chartreuse not only blooms in late spring - among the earliest of all hydrangeas to bloom - but is sweetly scented, a trait very rare in this genus. The jasmine-like scent will perfume an entire garden! .



Seaside Serenade® Fire Island Hydrangea

Long-lasting, white blooms edged in rich, rosy red atop notably tough stems. A compact mophead variety, perfect for massing and in pots. Superb cut flowers. Expect a harmonious parade of color, with blooms a deeper pink or blue tones, depending on soil pH. A new exclusive introduction for 2017. Deciduous.

Ruby Slippers Oakleaf Hydrangea

A profusion of exceptionally large, white blooms in summer quickly age to deep pink. Robust blooms remain upright even after heavy rains. Dark green, deeply lobed oak-like foliage turns brilliant mahogany in fall. Compact form works in smaller landscapes. Useful for mass planting, hedge or border. Deciduous.



Sikes Dwarf Oakleaf Hydrangea

'Sike's Dwarf' is a dwarf mounded cultivar that matures to only 3-4' tall and to 3-4' wide. It differs from the species by growing much smaller with smaller leaves and smaller flower panicles, and by having a more moderate growth habit with less frequent suckering from the roots. Conical flower panicles (to 3-4" long) of showy, mostly sterile, white flowers begin bloom in late spring. Flowers emerge white, gradually fade to light pink and then turn reddish brown by late summer. Oak-like leaves (to 5" long) turn attractive shades of bronze, maroon and purple in autumn.

Snow Queen Oakleaf Hydrangea

Large, dense 6 to 8 inch long clusters of white flowers are held upright above the dark green oak leaf-shaped foliage. Flowers become rose-pink in fall and leaves turn deep red-bronze. Tan-brown exfoliating bark is attractive in winter. Deciduous.



Hydrangea Oakleaf 'Snowflake'

A gorgeous native hydrangea with huge white flower clusters that appear to be double. The bloom season is much longer than single flower species because the florets continue to open on each flower panicle throughout summer. Deeply lobed, oak tree-like leaves make this a standout in the garden, especially in fall when the foliage becomes brilliant purple and crimson. Deciduous.

Hydrangea x 'Painter's Palette'

This is a very unusual Michael Dirr hybrid, the cross is *H. macrophylla* var. *serrata* x *acuminata*. It's a lacecap form with pinkish buds which open pink and white florets splashed with green all aging to pink. Flower color will alter depending upon soil Ph.

