

Spring Plants

Bulbs

Anemone blanda
Chionodoxa luciliae
Erythronium dens-canis
Tulips (early spring) – T corona, T Peach Blossom
Tulips (mid spring) – T Plaisir

Camassia leichtlinii
Cyclamen persicum
Iris danfordiae

Annuals

Bellis perennis
Viola

Lunaria annua (honesty)

Perennials

Anemone nemorosa
Dicentra Formosa
Helleborus foetidus
Primula – P beesiana (candelabra primula)
P japonica
P veris (cowslip)
P vulgaris (native primula)

Anemone ranunculoides
Euphorbia polychroma
Convallaria majalis (lily of the valley)

Shrubs

Camellia – C Elizabeth Hawkins (pinkish red)
C Inspiration (pink)
C Jury's Yellow (guess the colour)

Rhododendron – R Bruce Brechtbill
R Cary Ann
R Chanticleer
R Grace Seabrook

Ceanothus
Daphne tangutica
Pieris japonica, Valley Valentine

Choisya ternate, Aztec Pearl
Pieris, Forest Flame
Viburnum carlesii

Climbers

Clematis – C armandi
C cirrhosa
C macropetala
C Montana

Wisteria – W floribunda
W sinensis

Trees

Acacia dealbata
Magnolia campbellii
Magnolia stellata
Sorbus aria Lutescens

Ceris siliquastrum
Magnolia Pickards Schmetterling
Malus John Downie

Spring Plants

Trees

Magnolia
Malus (Apples)
Prunus (Flowering Cherries & almonds)
Pyrus salicifolia Pendula (silver leafed pear)
Robina pseudoacacia Frisia (false acacia)
Sorbus Lutescens (whitebeam)

Malus (Crab Apple)
Syringa (lilac)

Shrubs

Amelanchier
Camellia
Corylopsis willmottiae
Kalmia
Osmanthus delavayi
Rhododendron
Strachyrus praecox

Berberis x stenophylla
Cercis siliquastrum (Judas Tree)
Fothergill major
Magnolia liliiflora Nigra
Pieris
Azalea
Viburnum

Climbers

Clematis (alpina, armandii, macropetala, Montana, paniculata)
Lonicera x tellmanniana
Wisteria
Humulus lupulus Aureus

Perennials

Ajuga (bugle)
Armenia (Thrift)
Doronicum
Eremurus (Foxtail Lily)
Paeonia (peony)
Pulsatilla

Arabis
Dicentra
Epimedium
Euphorbia
Pulmonaria

Bulbs

Anemone
Crocus
Fritillaria
Iris
Narcissus
Tulipa

Chionodoxa
Cyclamen coum
Hyacinthoides non scripta (bluebell)
Leucojum (snowflake)
Scilla

Annuals & Biennials

Bellis perennis (pompom daisy)
Myosotis (forget me not)

Erysimum cheiri (wallflower)
Primula

Spring Styles

Many styles but key is choose the most suitable plants for your preferred style & then find the right position.

Formal style	very ordered, large solid displays
Cottage Garden style	loose free flow design
Bold Designs	modern structures, clean simple lines. Plants can either soften or accentuate
Mediterranean	drought tolerant plants, pots, bright colours
Flamboyant	decorative leaves, rich colours, interesting shapes, tender plants
Water Gardens	moisture loving plants eg ferns & primulas

Designing a Spring Border – Key Aspects

Visit public gardens for inspiration

Design the border around a peak flowering period

Plant in large groups wherever possible & mixed plantings

Combine with structural plantings & foliage patterns to hold & lengthen interest

Interplant with bulbs, annuals & climbers to produce a second flush of colour

Maintain some prominent spots in the border for a late show eg hydrangea or maple

Give consideration at an early stage to the framework ie large shapes & masses, deciduous & evergreen – trees, hedges, shrubs

Choose plants for your seasonal border that knit well together

Take care with deciduous shrubs

Naturalise bulbs in grass & below trees

Use generous amounts of bulbs

Check flowering times of bulbs & surrounding plants

Exploit planting opportunities near water or moist areas

Use bright & lively colour schemes but be aware of background

Mass plant tulips in containers

Utilise raised bed & planted troughs for specimen woodland plants

Exploit any areas for meadow planting to extend interest

Plant bulbs under shrubs to make best use of planting space

Make full use of containers

Making the most of spring plants in a garden

Prepare the site & remember aftercare

Assess the site & match plants to it

Exploit the range of species & varieties to extend flowering periods

Grow plants in as wide a range of situations as possible

Force bulbs to increase flowering opportunities

Consider shape, texture, & colour combinations

Plant in large blocks/drifts

Plan bulbs supporting groups & follow on acts

Browse catalogues, internet, magazines, garden centres to identify new varieties & planting ideas