



GROWING ANNUALS

ANNUAL	LIGHT REQUIREMENT	MOISTURE	PLANTING DATES		EDGING	BEDS & BORDERS	BETWEEN NEW SHRUBS OR PERENNIALS	MASS-COLOR LONG-BLOOM	CONTAINER HANGING BASKETS
			SOW SEED OUTDOORS	TRANSPLANT OUTDOORS					
Ageratum	sun/part shade	average/moist	no	May 15	yes	yes	no	small bed	in mix
Aster	sun/part shade	moist	no	May 15	dwarf cultivars	yes	no	yes	dwarf cultivars
Balsam	sun/part shade	moist	May 21	June 1	no	yes	no	no	yes
Begonia, tuberous	part shade	moist	no	June 1	shaded bed	no	no	no	yes
Begonia, wax	sun/part shade	average	no	June 1	yes	yes	no	yes	yes
Calendula	sun/light shade	moist	April 15	no	no	yes	no	yes	yes
Candytuft annual	sun	dry/average	May 1	May 15	yes	low border	no	no	flower in mixed container
Celosia	sun	dry	no	June 1	no	yes	no	yes	yes
Clarkia	sun/light shade	dry/average	April 15	no	no	natural and cut flowers	wildflower garden	no	no

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Coleus	light shade	moist	no	June 1	no	yes	no	small bed mixed color	yes
Cornflower	sun	dry/moist	April 15	no	short cultivars	cottage gardens	yes	no	in mixed container
Cosmos	sun	dry/average	May 1	May 15	no	yes	yes	no	in mixed container
Creeping zinnia Sanvitalia procumbens	sun	dry/average	no	May 15	leave room for spread	no	yes	Ground-cover	hanging basket
Dahlia, bedding	sun/light shade	moist	May 21	June 1	no	yes	no	dwarf varieties	large containers
Dianthus annual	sun/part shade	average	May 7	May 15	yes	yes	small areas	small areas	yes
Dusty Miller	sun/part shade	dry/average	no	May 15	yes	edge	no	no	yes with mixed flowers
Four O'Clock	sun	dry/average	May 15	no	no	cottage gardens	no	small areas	
Fuchsia	part shade/light shade	moist	no	May 21-June 1	no	upright varieties	no	no	Containers or baskets
Gaillardia annual	sun/light shade	dry/average	May 15	May 15	no	yes	no	yes	large containers
Gazania	sun	dry/average	no	May 15	no	yes	yes	yes	No

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Geranium	sun	average/ moist	no	May 15-June 1	edge of shrubs	yes	yes, if cost isn't a factor	yes, use seedling cultivar beds	yes/use cutting types for close viewing
Impatiens	part shade/light shade	moist	no	June 1	shade beds	shaded border	yes - best with shade perennials	yes	yes
Ivy geranium	sun	average	no	May 15-June 15	no	no	yes, if cost isn't a factor	yes	yes
Lobelia	sun/part shade	moist	no	May 15	yes	yes/edge	yes/low plantings	yes	
Marigolds tall medium petite	sun	average	May 15 May 15 May 15	May 15-June 1	no no yes	yes yes edging	no yes yes	yes yes yes	yes yes yes
Pansy	sun/partial shade	moist	no	April 15	yes	low border	yes	yes	all containers
Petunia	sun/morning sun	average	no	May 15-June 1	spreads	no	yes	yes	yes
Portulaca	sun	dry	May 15	June 1	spreads	no	yes	yes	yes
Salpiglossis	sun	moist	no	May 15	no	protected from wind	no	yes	no
Salvia	sun/partial shade	moist	no	May 15-June 1	no	color/hard to mix	no	yes	yes
Scabiosa annual	sun	moist	May 15	May 15-June 1	no	yes	no	yes	yes
Snapdragon tall dwarf	sun	average	no	May 15	no yes	Back or middle of border edging	yes yes	yes yes	large containers yes

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Spider Plant cloeme	sun	dry	May 15	May 15	no	background	no	no	Large patio tubs
Stocks	sun	moist	May 1	May 15	no	yes fragrant	no	no	Mixed flower containers
Sweet alyssum	sun/partial shade	average/moist	April 15	May 1	yes	edging	among small new perennials	no	Plant on edges of containers
Sweet pea	sun	moist	May 1	no	dwarf varieties	trellises	no	dwarf varieties	Dwarf varieties
Verbena	sun	dry/average	no	June 1	yes	edging	yes	use spreading varieties	Window boxes, baskets
Vinca annual	sun/partial shade	any	no	May 15	yes	edging	use spreading varieties	use spreading varieties	Pots and boxes
Zinnia tall medium dwarf	sun	dry/average	May 21	June 1	no no yes	yes yes edging	no bushy varieties no	yes yes yes	Larger pots Boxes boxes

Full Sun -- 6 to 8 hours a day

Light Shade -- Filtered through open trees or lath patio roofs

Part Shade -- Half day sun (morning or afternoon)

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Compiled by Tonie Fitzgerald. For more information, contact Master Gardeners at (509) 477-2181.

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