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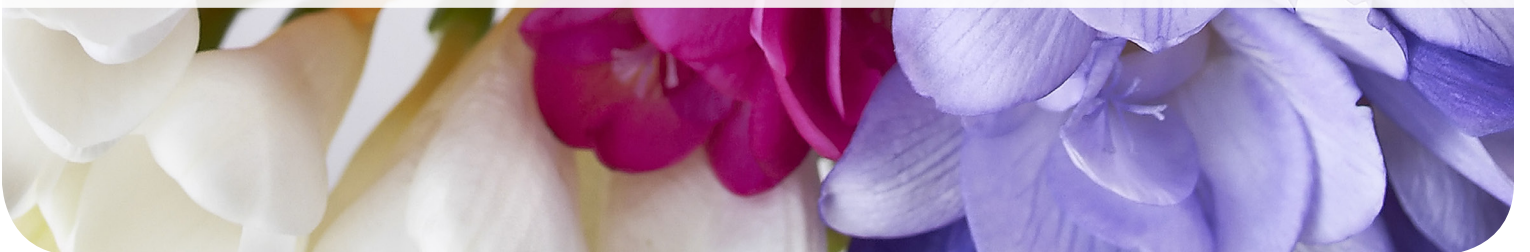
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FLORA GARDEN SOCIETY

(see special insert inside)



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Planting and Planning for Spring



Spring Planning Guide



“A little preparation can go a long way towards growing a lush and plentiful garden. Do your homework before you dig.”

Jon Summers



Spring has finally sprung, and you have decided to plant your first garden—but where to begin? That’s where Jon Summers comes in. Summers is Flora Garden Society’s expert horticulturist, and he’s starting off with the basics for what you need to know before you start planting.

Growing your own garden is an exciting and rewarding process. A successful garden takes careful planning and patience. Taking the time to do a little research will help ensure the plants you choose will be healthy and beautiful.

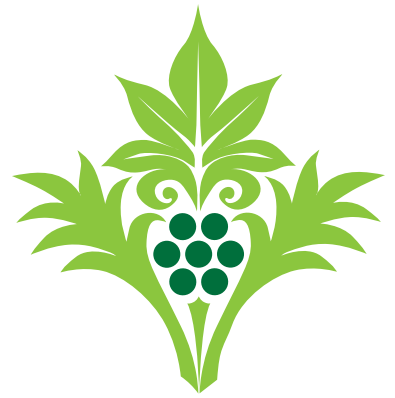
The type of soil you plan to use will determine which plants and flowers grow best in your garden. Most plants need well-drained soil to thrive. To test your soil, begin by digging a 1 foot hole. Fill the hole with water, and let the

water drain out. Then, refill the hole again. Wait 15 minutes then measure (in inches) how much the water has dropped. Multiply that figure by 4 to calculate how much the water drops in an hour. Less than 1 inch per hour indicates poor drainage, and you will need to choose plants that are able to tolerate wet soil for long periods of time. The optimal drainage time for most plants is 1 to 6 inches per hour. If your water drains more than 6 inches in an hour, you

may want to choose drought-resistant plants for your garden.

Before you select flowers to plant in your garden, you will need to take into account the amount of sun your garden receives. Different plants require varying amounts of sun exposure. The amount of sun an area is exposed to can be categorized into three groups. Full Sun receives 6 or more hours of direct sunlight, Partial Sun/Partial Shade receives 3-6 hours of direct sun, and Full Shade receives less than 3 hours of sunlight.

By doing background work first, you can feel confident in the flowers you choose to grow. Always look at the needs of each plant before you buy to determine the best fit for you! 🌱



FLORA GARDEN SOCIETY

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The Flora Garden Society is a private, not-for-profit organization funded entirely by donations, membership, memorials, grants, and garden tour admissions. It was formed in the early 1950s by citizens interested in promoting a more intimate relationship between the earth and our passion for gardening.

This booklet is one of four seasonal planning and planting booklets available for paid members.

Member Photo: *Jane Hanson is a passionate gardener and a fourth generation Flora Garden Society member.*

Share your photos by posting to our web site: www.floragardensociety.com



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