

10 SUPER PLANTS FOR ANY LANDSCAPE (ANNA JOHNSON'S FAVORITES)

1. **Lantana**- 'New Gold' 'Confetti' Incredible bloomers from early Spring until frost. Plant in full sun, large spreading habit. For more compact varieties use 'Miss Muffet' or 'Irene', most varieties are perennial.
2. **Begonia**- New 'Baby Wing' pale pink; 'Dragon Wing' cherry red; 'Tuberous, Rich' deep red, fuchsia, yellow, and orange; and all bedding varieties are so versatile. Begonias are hard working bloomers that are fantastic tucked into hanging baskets, containers, and in-ground plantings. A favorite to pair with caladium bulbs and asparagus fern. Annual
3. **Marigolds**- Natural insect repellent! Always in bloom. New Colors Durango Bee (Bi-color) and Red are unusual. Try a mass planting of solid orange or yellow and you will plant it again next year! Truly a low maintenance hot color performer
4. **Petunias**- 'Super, Easy Wave, Tidal Wave'- Long-lasting bloom power-houses, now more drought tolerant, wind tolerant, and user friendly. All you need to know is regular water, regular fertilizer (we like Osmocote slow-release fertilizer and miracle grow boosts), and cut back mid-July to late July if they are too leggy to allow an abundant Fall show! Annual
5. **Dracena Spike Green and Bowers Purple**- YOU NEED TEXTURE! These simple, yet elegant, yet low maintenance beauties provide texture, whimsy, movement, and EVERGREEN presence in the landscape. YOU CAN PLANT ME IN FULL SUN TO FULL SHADE! I GO EVERYWHERE! Bowers purple is a bit more sun intolerant than the green. The green Cordyline Dracena Spike is the hardiest in the sun. *Remember to water well in the winter months and to brush snow out of the middle "crown" so that they do not rot in this area.
6. **Acanthus**- GRECIAN PATTERN PLANT- Shade loving dream! Glossy, large, high impact foliage that screams established paradise. Blooms in mid-summer with maroon and white bloom stalks. A neighbor stopping perennial.
7. **Superbena**- VERBENA PEDULA, TAPIEN, ETC.- Larger and more prolific blooms! Bred to be more heat and sun tolerant. If you pinch back the Tapien varieties early they will spread to 18 inches in 6 weeks. Tapiens are self dead-heading! Even stands up to some foot-traffic. Plant me in between rocks and I won't stop blooming. For use in hanging baskets, pots, or as perennial ground-cover. Attracts butterflies!
8. **Columbine**- 'Oragami Red and Blue, Paper White, and Texas Gold'- One of the few large-blooming shade perennials available. A true red, white, and blue for the shade. Texas Gold is a yellow that is highly desirable and written about for its long-time bloom periods sometimes extending into July! Not as palatable to snails and slugs as other shade perennials.
9. **Red / Yellow Dew Plant**- Super duper sun-loving annual that will never quit. Does not require trimming back. Can grow in the mailbox planters out by the street in intense heat and will withstand lots of wind on a west-exposed porch. A real trooper in West Texas tough conditions.
10. **Heuchera and Heucherella**- 'Amber waves, Dolce key lime pie, Amethyst mist, Crème de minthe'- super shade loving perennials whose foliage is more spectacular than a hosta and does not especially attract snails and slugs! Heat-tolerant and wind forgiving. Loves West Texas soil equally to container growing. Small blooms.