

COOL WEATHER

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Alyssum

Space Alyssum plants 6 inches apart. Adequate soil drainage is important—allow top 2 inches of soil to dry out between waterings. Fertilize moderately. Plants do not bloom in the high heat of summer. Alyssum prefers full sun but tolerates partial shade.

Bacopa

Bacopa provides color all summer long with very little effort. It tolerates full sun to partial shade, combining easily with a range of spring annuals in mixed containers. Plants need regular water to look their best so set a convenient schedule and stick to it!

Lobelia

True blue Lobelia blooms through the heat of summer. Space plants 4-6 inches apart in moist, rich well-draining soil. Make sure plants get plenty of water, especially in full sun, to keep the soil moist. Compost or fertilizer may be added. Deadheading is not required.

Cool Weather Lovers



Fillers For Baskets And Containers

Sweet honey-scented Alyssum looks foamy spilling over the edges of hanging baskets, attracting butterflies and hummingbirds. It pairs nicely with Pansies. Bacopa is another mounding, trailing variety with delicate flowers that cascades out of hanging baskets. This versatile plant is a vigorous bloomer to combine with other spring annuals like Nemesia and Lobelia.

It takes just one Lobelia plant to fill a patio container with lots of blooms for lots of color. Mix blue and white varieties as spillers for hanging baskets, combos, or window boxes. Lobularia has a look that is similar to foamy Alyssum. Both plants can handle the cool weather but Lobularia also blooms in summer, flowering so profusely that sometimes the foliage is completely hidden from view. It's eye-catching flowing out over the edges of mixed containers and hanging baskets.



Lobularia

Vigorous Lobularia should be planted 8-12 inches apart in full sun to part shade. While plants are becoming established in the garden be careful to keep the soil moist; after that, water regularly. Cut back by half if blooming slows in the heat of midsummer and the pace should pick up again in the fall.

Nemesia

Plant Nemesia when all danger of frost has passed, setting plants 4-6 inches apart. You'll get the frothiest coating of blooms in full sun but plants also tolerate part shade. Once established, Nemesia needs regular watering and that's about it. Deadhead regularly to prolong blooming.

Osteospermum

Osteospermum is most prolific when grown in full sun but it can tolerate light shade. Space plants about 12 inches apart in loose well-drained soil, and try to keep the soil evenly moist but not soggy. Osteo flowers less profusely during the hot, humid days of summer—it can be cut back by half for a fuller rebloom later in the summer and into fall.

Low Growers For Groundcover

Alyssum only reaches 4 to 8 inches tall but spreads 24 to 48 inches wide, trailing up to 24 inches. It's a frothy wave massed at the front of the border or used to fill gaps between perennials.

Bacopa is a great low maintenance groundcover. It grows 10 to 36 inches wide, sprawling out in the landscape to create a beautiful carpet of color. Mat-forming Lobularia can be massed in beds, border fronts, or rock gardens. It also works as a foamy underplanting with trees or shrubs, or as edging.

Thrillers To Amp Up The Drama

Blue flowers are very rare and cobalt blue Lobelia is eye-catching. Numerous blooms add a burst of blue as a thriller in mixed combos with other sun-lovers. Nemesia's delicate blossoms come in six different colors; they are sweetly fragrant and almost Lobelia-like. Use it as a focal point in borders or containers.

Osteospermum grows up to three feet tall with showy daisy-like flowers that measure two inches across, in solid and multicolor shades of white, pink, purple, or yellow. Spiders have unique pinched or quilled petals and 4D varieties have double centers. One-of-a-kind 'Blue-Eyed Beauty' has stunning blue eyes!

