

HYDRANGEAS FOR THE LANDSCAPE

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- Hydrangea arborescens** Native species found growing in damp, shady areas of central and southern Ohio. Will flower in deep shade.
- a. ‘Annabelle’** Cultivar with large 12” flower heads adaptable to sunny and partially shaded sites.
- a. radiata** Green foliage has a silvery underside that shows off with in a light breeze. Flat cluster of white flowers in mid summer on new wood.
- a. r. ‘Samantha’** Large round white heads held above green foliage with a silvery underside.

macrophylla This is the species from which the majority of familiar cultivated hydrangeas are derived.

*A few of the vast number of cultivars of this species include:
Hortensia forms*

- All Summer Beauty** Large heads of blue or pink all summer. Blooms on current season’s wood.
- Endless Summer™** Large heads of pink or blue bloom on new or old wood. Flowers all summer.
- Enziandom** Gentian blue flowers are held against dark green foliage.
- Forever Pink** Rich clear pink flowers.
- Goliath** Huge heads of soft pink to pale blue, dark green foliage.
- Harlequin** Remarkable bicolor rose-pink flowers have a band of white around each floret. Give a little added protection in winter.
- Masja** Large red flowers, glossy foliage.
- Mme. Emile Mouillere** Reliable white hydrangea has either a pink or blue eye depending on soil pH
- Nigra** Black stems contrast nicely with dusty rose mophead flowers.
- Nikko Blue** Large deep blue flowers.
- Parzifal** Tight mopheads of pink to deep blue depending on pH. Flowers held upright on strong stems.
- Penny Mac** Reblooming clear blue flowers, appear on new or old wood
- Pia** Dwarf compact form displays full size rose pink flowers.
- Sister Therese** Delicate white flowers.
- serrata ‘Preziosa’** Rosy-pink flowers turn to deep crimson with cooler temperatures of fall. Foliage has reddish hue in full sun.

A few of the Lace Cap forms:

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| s. 'Blue Billows' | Flat blue clusters. Most flower hardy of the lace caps. |
| m. 'Blue Cassel' | Huge blooms of pink or deep blue on new or old wood. |
| m. <i>Mariesii Variegata</i> | Bright green leaves with white to cream border. Shy bloomer with pink to mauve flowers. |
| m. 'Izo No Hana' | Soft pink to blue double florets literally explode from the flower. (Japanese hybrid) |
| s. 'Spreading Beauty' | Can be used as a ground cover or for massing. Flat pink or blue clusters are displayed against a carpet of dark green foliage. |
| m. <i>Tokyo Delight</i> | White florets encircle pink fertile flowers all gradually turning pink. |

Panicle or PG Hydrangea:

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| paniculata 'Kyushu' | Showy white conical cluster of flowers, glossy foliage. |
| p. 'Limelight' TM | Flowers open a lime green. |
| p. 'Little Lime' TM | A more compact version of 'Limelight' TM |
| p. 'Phantom' | Enormous flowers emerge green and change to pure white, changing again to shades of pink in late summer.. |
| p. 'Pink Diamond' | Large pure white flowers clusters in late July develop a pink coloration in late August or September. |
| p. 'Quickfire' TM | Blooms early June, fading to a rich pink. |
| p. 'Tardiva' | Large showy white clusters on strong upright stems. |
| p. 'Unique' | Huge conical pure white heads. |

Climbing Hydrangea:

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| <i>anomala petiolaris</i> | Attractive vine or groundcover with large flat heads of white flowers in late June. |
| a. p. 'Mirranda' | Foliage is edged with a margin of bright yellow. |

Oakleaf Hydrangea:

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| <i>quercifolia</i> | Oakleaf Hydrangea. Large, coarse textured oak leaf foliage with large white flowers in June. |
| q. 'Applause' | Compact grower with deeply cut leaves and compact flower heads. |
| q. 'Pee Wee' | Large white flowers against bold foliage, that turns chocolate-burgundy in the fall. Dwarf selection. |
| q. 'Sikes Dwarf' | Low growing dwarf form with flowers held above the foliage. |
| q. 'Snowflake' | Enormous panicles of double flowers age to shades of parchment and pink. |
| q. 'Snow Queen' | Improved selection with large, pure white panicles. |

Hydrangea Culture

Hydrangea macrophylla cultivars are easiest transplanted as container grown plants. They prefer moist, well drained soil which has been amended with peat moss, leaf mold or compost. Full sun or part shade are preferred. Moisture is a necessity as plants tend to wilt in hot dry sites and will not perform at their best.

Why is my blue hydrangea pink? Flowers of some cultivars are strongly effected by the pH of the soil in which they are grown. The color changes depend on the concentration of aluminum ions in the soil. This depends in turn on the acidity of the soil, being highest on very acid soils and lowest where the soil is alkaline. The color range depends on the cultivar but the bluest shades are always produced on the most acid soils. A pH range of 5.0 to 5.5 is listed as satisfactory for inducing blue coloration while pH 6.0 to 6.5 and higher is best for pink coloration.

Aluminum must be absorbed by the plant in order to maintain blue flowers. There is usually aluminum present in the soil, but it has to be in a form of a soluble salt which can be absorbed by the plant. This can only happen in acid soil. In alkaline soil aluminum forms an insoluble compound which the plant cannot absorb.

To intensify the blue color add 0.25 –0.5 oz. of aluminum sulphate per gallon of water and apply periodically through the growing season. A fertilizer low in phosphorous is also recommended.

Oakleaf Hydrangea are native to Georgia, Florida, Alabama and Mississippi. Though southern in origin, they are hardy to Zone 5. They require moist, fertile, well drained soil in sun or partial shade. Mulch to maintain a cool, moist root environment. Prune after flowering as plants bloom on old wood and buds form the prior year.

Climbing Hydrangea are somewhat slow to develop after transplanting, requiring rich, well drained, moist soil in full sun or partial shade. For best results, plant so that the root system is in a cool soil position.

Hydrangea A.G. and P.G. both bloom on new wood and like the same conditions as other hydrangeas. Hydrangea arborescens is native to the eastern U.S. including central and southern Ohio.

