

Deadheading Perennials

Perennials benefit greatly from “deadheading”. Deadheading means to take off finished or dead blooms. This procedure has two purposes. One is to allow the plant to funnel its energy towards producing new flowers. The second is to keep the garden looking tidy. Many perennials will continue to bloom once they have been deadheaded.

To deadhead properly, use sharp pruners. Trim the stalk with the spent bloom on it to a spot beneath the height of the foliage. This will keep your garden looking attractive. If there are blossoms on the same stem that are not finished or have yet to bloom, trim the spent blossom to the spot above where the next flower is located. Following is a list of plants that can be deadheaded to encourage more blooms.

Anchusa	Coreopsis	Jupiter's Beard
Armeria	Daisy, Shasta	Liatris
Astilbe	Daylily	Lupine
Baby's Breath	Delphinium	Lychnis
Bachelor Button	Dianthus	Penstemon
Balloon Flower	Foamflower	Phlox, Garden
Bear's Breech	Foxglove	Pincushion
Bellflower	Gazania	Poker Plant
Bleeding Heart	Geum	Rudbeckia
Butterfly Flower	Heucherella	Stokes' Aster
Columbine	Hibiscus	Sunflower
Coneflower	Hollyhock (B)	Viola
Coral Bells	Hosta	

(B)= Biennial


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