

THE  
SMALL  
GARDEN

Connecting people with nature

THE TOP 10  
-  
Balcony  
Plants



**01 Aptenia Cordifolia**

This low-growing plant is a hardy perennial. Its succulent leaves make it tough enough for balcony conditions, while its small red flowers provide year-round colour.

**KEEPING IT HAPPY**

- Suits full sun
- Plant in a trough planter
- Water only when the soil is completely dry
- Fertilising isn't necessary

**02 Schlumbergera (Zygocactus)**

Native to Brazil, the Zygocactus thrives in pots. With delicate bell-like flowers that bloom in winter, it is ideal for adding colour to a balcony.

**KEEPING IT HAPPY**

- Suits full shade
- Plant in a hanging planter
- Water as the soil begins to dry
- Use a low-nitrogen fertiliser during flowering

**03 Plumeria Pudica (Evergreen Frangipani)**

Unlike common frangipanis, this plant is evergreen and more shrub-like. With delicate white flowers and deep green foliage, it adds colour and impact.

**KEEPING IT HAPPY**

- Suits full sun or part shade
- Plant in a large feature pot
- Water only when the soil is dry
- Use a slow-release all-purpose fertiliser once a year

**04 Alcantarea Imperialis**

With its broad leaf and deep red colouring, the hardy Alcantarea Imperialis creates instant impact. In winter, the red underside of the leaf brightens, enhancing the appeal of this striking plant.

**KEEPING IT HAPPY**

- Suits full sun or part shade
- Plant in a large low bowl planter
- Water only when the soil is dry
- Use a weak seaweed solution in summer

**05 Carissa Desert Star**

The Carissa Desert Star provides glossy evergreen foliage and sweetly scented white flowers that appear in the warmer months. Even in a pot, it can grow up to 1 metre high.

**KEEPING IT HAPPY**

- Suits full sun or part shade
- Plant in a medium square or cylinder pot
- Water only when the soil is dry
- Use a slow-release all-purpose fertiliser once a year

**06 Portulaca Hot Spots**

This low-maintenance plant yields flowers in pinks, reds, yellows and oranges. Being semi-succulent, it is tough, thrives in warm climates and will produce masses of flowers in summer.

**KEEPING IT HAPPY**

- Suits full sun
- Plant in a trough planter
- Water only when the soil is dry
- Use an all-purpose fertiliser in spring and summer

**07 Cryptomeria Japonica (Globosa Nana)**

A hardy, dense and textural evergreen shrub, Globosa Nana is a great way to create privacy. It can grow up to 1.5 metres high and has lush foliage year round.

**KEEPING IT HAPPY**

- Suits full sun
- Plant in a large trough planter
- Keep the soil moist with regular watering
- Use a slow-release all-purpose fertiliser in spring

**08 Raphiolepis Indica (Spring Pearl)**

This low-maintenance compact shrub is tough as nails. It can withstand exposed windy conditions and still produce flushes of white and pink flowers.

**KEEPING IT HAPPY**

- Suits full sun or part shade
- Plant in a trough planter
- Water as the soil begins to dry
- Use a slow-release all-purpose fertiliser in spring

**09 Strelitzia Nicolai (White Bird of Paradise)**

A striking plant, the White Bird of Paradise looks great positioned in a corner. Despite its tropical appearance, it can withstand cold temperatures but should be protected from wind.

**KEEPING IT HAPPY**

- Suits partly shaded conditions
- Plant in an oversized cylinder pot
- Water only when the soil is dry
- Regularly use a slow-release all-purpose fertiliser

**10 Nolina Nelsonii (Nelson's Bear Grass)**

This striking architectural plant adds texture to any balcony. A hardy species, it will happily withstand full exposure to wind, sun, frost and salt spray.

**KEEPING IT HAPPY**

- Suits full sun or part shade
- Plant in a large low bowl planter
- Water only when the soil is dry
- Use a slow-release all-purpose fertiliser once a year

**Planting Tips**

- Choose large pots that give your plants room to grow.
- Water all plants well after planting.
- When flower buds appear, do not reposition the plant until flowering is finished.
- Prune plants after flowering to encourage new growth.
- In cool climates, position plants away from areas prone to frost.