

# Top Performing Perennials

1. Creeping Phlox – Phlox subulata Feb-March  
Evergreen groundcover; full sun to partial shade; well drained soil is a must; should be cut back about halfway in May or so. Dense carpets of pinks, whites, blues and bi-colors appear in early spring.
2. Columbine – Aquilegia May  
Herbaceous; partial shade is best with well drained soil. The 5-petaled, 5-sepaled flowers come in a wide range of colors from yellow/red to blue, white, pink/white. Blooms last 6-8 weeks and reseed to double their area in 2-3 years.
3. Bleeding Heart – Dicentra eximia May  
Herbaceous; partial shade to shade; well drained soil with good organic content. This variety has fine, fern textured foliage and will bloom regularly from spring through fall. It does not go dormant in summer.
4. Pinks – Dianthus varieties April-June  
Generally evergreen; gray-green and green leafed varieties available; full sun is best; well drained soil. Flowers, which range in color from white to pink to rose and red, persist for 8-10 weeks.
5. Daylily – Hemerocallis May-July  
Herbaceous, foliage emerging early; full sun is best but will tolerate partial shade; very tolerant of most soil types. Flower colors in a wide range of everything except blue!
6. Daisy – Chrysanthemum x superbum May-June  
Herbaceous; full sun; well drained soil preferable. Very good cut flower, Shasta can get 2-3' tall so put in middle or back of border; more dwarf varieties are available; can be used as accent or mass planting. It is one of the easiest perennials to grow with pure white flowers with yellow centers.
7. Astilbe – Astilbe x arendsii May-June  
Herbaceous; partial shade to shade, well drained, high humus soils, will not tolerate drought. Excellent plants for shady, moist conditions, offering colorful flowers in low light conditions. 1' to 3' tall depending on cultivars.
8. Tickseed – Coreopsis grandiflora C. verticillata May-Sept.  
Herbaceous; sun; well drained soil; moderately drought tolerant; dead heading on the grandiflora varieties helps promote continuous bloom. Blooms all summer. The bright yellow flowers, along with its tolerance of most any soil type make Coreopsis one of the top ten perennials sold.
9. Coral Bells – Heuchera sanguinea June  
Semi-evergreen; partial shade, prefer bright light in the morning but protection from afternoon sun. Prized for their foliage more than their small sprays of flowers. Outstanding in combination with other shade tolerant plants such as Hostas and Ferns.
10. Catmint – Nepeta fassenii June-August  
Full sun and well drained soil. Aromatic foliage; a long blooming period of soft blue flowers and easy care makes this a favorite. For bees and butterflies too!
11. Yarrow – Achillea filipendulina & A. millefolium June-August  
Herbaceous; full sun; well drained soils, will tolerate some drought; foliage is of nearly as much interest as the flower and has a "spicy" odor when crushed. Easy to grow, offering years of color and flowers, useful for fresh and dried arrangements.