

Pruning Hydrangeas

Hydrangeas can bloom on old wood and new wood – some varieties, such as Endless Summer, bloom on both!

Some Hydrangeas that bloom on old wood:

Hydrangea quercifolia

'Alice', 'Ruby Slippers', 'Munchkin', 'Snow Queen', 'Sykes Dwarf'

Hydrangea macrophylla

'Blushing Bride', 'Big Daddy', 'Endless Summer', 'Twist & Shout'

Prune hydrangea that bloom on old wood by removing spent or faded flowers (after blooming), leaving the long canes. Cutting these down in the fall will remove next year's flower buds.



Some Hydrangeas that bloom on new wood:

Hydrangea arborescens

'Annabelle', 'Incrediball', 'Invincibelle Spirit'

Hydrangea paniculata

'Quick Fire', 'Limelight', 'Little Lamb', 'Pink Diamond', 'Pinky Winky', 'Tardiva', 'Unique', 'Vanilla Strawberry'

Hydrangeas which bloom on new wood can be pruned in March, leaving 4 inch canes. To reduce flopping, leave some canes 18" – 24" long.

Cutting hydrangeas down in the fall makes them susceptible to disease-causing organisms.



Hydrangeas

While thought of as shade plants, all species can tolerate several hours of sun.

All prefer rich, moist well drained soil.

Smooth Hydrangea - *Hydrangea arborescens*

'Annabelle', 'Incrediball', 'Invincibelle Spirit'

- White or pink mophead flowers
- Bloom on new wood (prune in the spring)
- Poor fall color

Big Leaf Hydrangea - *Hydrangea macrophylla*

'Endless summer', 'Blushing Bride', 'Lemon Daddy', 'Twist & Shout', 'Light O Day', 'Let's Dance'

- Mophead or Lacecap flowers
- Colors: white, pink, rose, blue, purple
- Blooms on new and old wood (prune after flowering and in the spring)
- Good fall color

Panicle Hydrangea - *Hydrangea paniculata*

'Bobo', 'Quick Fire', 'Limelight', 'Little Lime', 'Little Lamb', 'Vanilla Strawberry', 'Pink Diamond', 'Pinky Winky', 'Tardiva', 'Unique', 'Mystical Flame'

- Panicle shaped flowers
- Colors: White, pink, rose
- Blooms on new wood (spring pruning)
- Poor fall color.

Oakleaf Hydrangea - *Hydrangea quercifolia*

'Alice', 'Ruby Slippers', 'Snow Queen', 'Snowflake', 'Pee Wee', 'Sikes Dwarf'

- Large white to pink panicles
- Blooms on old wood (prune after flowering)
- Good purple, red, russet fall colors
- Attractive bark, orange, exfoliating