

A WORD OF CAUTION

Even though plants may have been thriving beautifully for a period the natural weather elements can take their toll on even the hardiest of inhabitants. High temperatures, strong sunlight, high winds drying during summer and bitterly cold during winter can all negatively affect the appearance of plants. This is often evidenced by:

- Wind: Blackened leaves from wind and salt burn which are a common sight after storms
- Sunlight: Brown leaves, particularly around the tips and margins. This is often followed by the leaves curling and shrivelling. In some cases whole leaves can become entirely crispy and there may be some minor die-back of branches.

WHAT SHOULD I DO?

If you do encounter damage then in the vast majority of cases the plant will grow through and overcome the issues of its own accord. However, in extreme situations you may need, or want, to prune out the damage to improve the plants visual appearance. After any damaging weather event pay particular attention to watering and feeding. This will strengthen the plant to the elements and improve its resilience to future weather conditions.

EXTRA HELP

In addition there is also the issue of garden pests – see our Garden Pests Leaflet. For further advice please call:
Stone Cross Garden Centre - 01323 488188

THAT PLANT YOU WANT

This is a guide showing plants that are well suited to specific conditions. Whilst it is always easier to grow plants in the conditions that they prefer with a little planning you can still have that special plant that you really want.

- You can improve your soil conditions to suit specific plants
- You can create sheltered areas to overcome shading and wind issues
- You can add trees to create dappled shade

When planting you should:

- Avoid times when the soil is waterlogged or frozen
- Dig a hole twice the size of the plants root ball
- Add a generous helping of *Rose, Tree and Shrub compost* and *Rootgrow*. This will help the plant to establish more quickly.
- Firm the plant into the ground so that it will not move and rock in the wind
- Keep your plant well-watered in the summer
- Mulch the plant with *blended manure* yearly

If you do not have the right conditions you can grow your hedging plants in containers. Here you can control the conditions and environment far more easily. This saves you time and energy. For example you can:

- Aid drainage by filling the bottom of the container with grit
- Use the best compost and rooting fertiliser so that your plant will start life happy
- Move the container to a more sheltered area if required
- Move the container in or out of the sunlight as the plant prefers
- Feed the plant regularly to keep it in good health
- Adjust the watering of the plant to suit its needs

Whilst the plant is young you can plant bedding plants around the edge of the container to give you increased colour in the garden!

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Perfect Plants ...

SHADE

Stone Cross
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Shade is a very common problem encountered by lots of people. However, whether it is created by buildings, trees or high fences there are still a number of plants that are well suited to these growing conditions.

The type of shade you have will determine the type of plants that you can grow.

- Light Shade: Somewhere that is open to the sky but is shielded by a fence or wall for an hour or two for part of the day. Most plants that require full sun will be fine in these conditions.
- Partial shade: Somewhere receiving only a couple of hours of sun in the early morning or late afternoon.
- Dappled or Deep Shade: Somewhere that is for example under the canopy of a tree or under a pagoda with a climbing plant covering it that receives no direct sunlight. Whilst it is bright enough to see the light is diffused by the tree or obstacle.

Once you know the type of shade you have it is important to ascertain the moisture of your soil. Then you can select the best plants for your specific location.

PERFECT PLANTS FOR SHADE

SOIL	SHRUBS		PERENNIALS		TREES	GROUND COVER	CLIMBERS	HEDGING	ANNUALS
M O I S T	Acer	Azalea	Ajuga	Anemone	Betula (Birch)	Ajuga	Clematis Hedera Hydrangea	Ligustrum (Privet) Fargesia (Bamboo) Phyllostachys (Bamboo) Taxus	Begonia Impatiens (Busy Lizzie) Viola
	Camellia	Cornus	Astrantia	Astilbe		Salix (Willow)			
M O I S T	Euonymus	Fatsia	Campanula	Digitalis	Quercus (Oak)		OUR PICK Clematis Bees Jubilee		
	Hydrangea	Pieris	Euphorbia	Galanthus (Snowdrop)					
M O I S T	Sambucus	Sarcococca	Geum	(Snowdrop)					OUR PICK Impatiens
	Skimmia		Houttuynia	Hosta					
M O I S T		OUR PICK Hydrangea	Lysimachia	Primula					
D R Y	Athyrium	Berberis	Alchemellia	Anemone	Acer – Campestre	Ajuga	Chaenomeles Jasmine Lonicera Pyracantha Rose - Rugosa	Buxus Fagus	Begonia Cyclamen Lamium Snowdrops
	Aucuba	Dryopteris	Aquilegia	Astrantia					
D R Y	Camellia	Cotoneaster	Aster	Brunnera	Betula	Lonicera	OUR PICK Lonicera Winter Beauty	Ilex Lonicera Osmanthus Photinia	
	Euonymus	Fuchsia	Bergenia	Cyclamen (Hardy)					
D R Y	Hypericum	Ilex	Cortadaria	(Pampus)	Quercus – Ilex				OUR PICK Begonia
	Mahonia	Osmunda	Dicentra	Euphorbia					
D R Y	Pittosporum	Polystichum	Lamium	Heuchera					
	Ruscus	Sarcococca	Oxalis	Liriope					
D R Y	Vinca	Viburnum	Pulmonaria	(Muscari)					

Words in brackets are the common name of the word preceding them

If a hyphen is used the first word is the plant with the second word after the hyphen referring to a particular variety of the plant