Flowering Shrubs for Home Landscapes

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Is it a tree or is it a shrub?

• Tree
  • woody plant with one main stem at least 12-15' tall and having a distinct head in most cases (Dirr, 2009)

• Shrub
  • woody plant that is never tree-like in habit and produces branches or shoots from or near the base (Dirr, 2009).

• Tree-form
  • shrub species is trained or grafted to resemble small tree.

Why plant shrubs?

• Screen unwanted sights
• Direct traffic
• Unify the space
  • Place shrubs as intermediaries to create a smooth transition from large elements, such as the house and trees, to low-lying elements, including lawn and flowers.
• Save space
  • When space is tight and a tree won’t fit, create a focal point with a single showy shrub.
• Aesthetics
  • Foliage
  • Flowers
  • Fruit
Explore and Have Fun.  Don’t End Up with the Cookie Cutter Landscape.

Desirable Qualities of Shrubs
- Predicable size and form
- Rapid growth rate
- Ease of transplanting and establishment
- Minimal litter (leaf, fruit)
- Resistant to attack by pests and disease
- Non-allergenic
- Tolerant of wide range of environmental conditions
- Excellent aesthetic features
- Non-invasive

Selection Criteria
- Function
- Design Elements
  - Form and Size
  - Texture
- Site Conditions
- Plant Features

Shrub Features
- Foliage
  - Texture
  - Summer and fall colors
- Flowers
- Fruit
  - Wildlife
  - Ornamental
  - Edible
  - Bark
  - Summer and winter features

Flowering shrubs

Northern Sun Forsythia – Forsythia x’Northern Sun’
- Type: Deciduous
- Hardiness: 4
- Height: 8-12’
- Spread: 7-9’
- Sun: Full
- Water: Low to Moderate
- Maintenance: Pruning
- Tolerates: Deer
- Use: Border, Foundation, Screening
**Dakota Sunspot® Potentilla – Potentilla fruticosa 'Fargo'**
- Type: Deciduous
- Hardiness: 2-7
- Height: 2-3’
- Spread: 3-4’
- Sun: Full
- Water: Low
- Maintenance: Low
- Tolerates: Dry soil, Drought, Deer
- Use: Attracts butterflies

**Tri-Lights Azalea – Rhododendron 'Tri-Lights'
- Type: Deciduous
- Hardiness: 4-7
- Height: 4’
- Spread: 5-6’
- Sun: Part
- Water: Low to Moderate
- Maintenance: Low
- Tolerates: Resistant to powdery mildew
- Use: Mass plantings, Border, Accent

**Campfire Canadian Artist Series Rose – Rosa 'Campfire'
- Type: Deciduous
- Hardiness: 3
- Height: 2-3’
- Spread: 2-3’
- Sun: Full
- Water: Moderate
- Maintenance: Moderate
- Tolerates: Disease resistant
- Use: Border, Hedge, Foundation, Ground cover
- Special Features: Attracts hummingbirds

**Red Prince Weigela – Weigela florida ‘Red Prince’
- Type: Deciduous
- Hardiness: 4
- Height: 5-6’
- Spread: 5-6’
- Sun: Full
- Water: Moderate
- Maintenance: Low
- Tolerates: Adaptable to most conditions
- Use: Border, Accent
- Special Feature: Summer blooming, Attracts hummingbirds
French Lace™ Weigela – *Weigela florida* 'Brigela'  
- Type: Deciduous  
- Hardiness: 4  
- Height: 4-5’  
- Spread: 4-5’  
- Sun: Full  
- Water: Moderate  
- Maintenance: Low  
- Tolerates: Adaptable to most conditions  
- Use: Border, accent  
- Special Feature: Summer blooming, Attracts hummingbirds

Minuet Weigela – *Weigela florida* 'Minuet'  
- Type: Deciduous  
- Hardiness: 4  
- Height: 2-3’  
- Spread: 2-3’  
- Sun: Full  
- Water: Moderate  
- Maintenance: Low  
- Tolerates: Adaptable to most conditions  
- Use: Border, accent  
- Special Feature: Summer blooming, Attracts hummingbirds

Autumn Magic Black Chokeberry – *Aronia melanocarpa* 'Autumn Magic'  
- Type: Deciduous  
- Hardiness: 3-7  
- Height: 3-5’  
- Spread: 2-4’  
- Sun: Full  
- Water: Low  
- Maintenance: Low  
- Tolerates: Variable soil types  
- Use: Native, Edible fruit

Buttonbush – *Chephalanthus occidentalis*  
- Type: Deciduous  
- Hardiness: 4-10  
- Height: 3-4’  
- Spread: 2-4’  
- Sun: Full to Part Shade  
- Water: Moderate  
- Maintenance: Low  
- Tolerates: Wet soil  
- Use: Native  
- Special Features: Use as cut flower

Proud Berry™ (Coral Berry) - *Symphoricarpos* sp. 'Sofie'  
- Type: Deciduous  
- Hardiness: 3-7  
- Height: 3-4’  
- Spread: 4-5’  
- Sun: Full to Part Shade  
- Water: Moderate  
- Maintenance: Low  
- Tolerates: Variable soil types  
- Use: Accent  
- Special Features: Showy Fruit, Deer resistant

Northern Pearls Pearlbush – *Exochorda serratifolia* 'Northern Pearls'  
- Type: Deciduous  
- Hardiness: 4-7  
- Height: 6-8’  
- Spread: 6-8’  
- Sun: Full to Part Shade  
- Water: Moderate  
- Maintenance: Low  
- Tolerates: Variable soil types, drought  
- Use: Accent  
- Special Features: Interesting flower buds
Northern Pearls Pearlbush – *Exochorda serratifolia* ‘Northern Pearls’

Diamond Rouge™ Hydrangea – *Hydrangea paniculata* ‘Rendia’
- Type: Deciduous
- Hardiness: 4-8
- Height: 4-5’
- Spread: 3-4’
- Sun: Full to Part Shade
- Water: Low
- Maintenance: Low
- Tolerates: Variable soil types
- Use: Accent

*Photo courtesy of Proven Winners*  

Hydrangea paniculata ‘Rendia’ – Diamond Rouge™ Hydrangea

Incrediball® Hydrangea – *Hydrangea arborescens* ‘Abetwo’
- Type: Deciduous
- Hardiness: 3-8
- Height: 4-5’
- Spread: 3-4’
- Sun: Full to Part Shade
- Water: Low
- Maintenance: Low
- Tolerates: Variable soil types
- Use: Accent
- Special Feature: Native

*Photo courtesy of Proven Winners*  

Incrediball® Hydrangea – *Hydrangea arborescens* ‘Abetwo’

Berry Poppins® Winterberry Holly – *Ilex verticillata* ‘FARROWBPPOP’
- Type: Deciduous
- Hardiness: 3-8
- Height: 3-4’
- Spread: 3-5’
- Sun: Full to Part Shade
- Water: Moderate
- Maintenance: Low
- Tolerates: Variable soil types and wet conditions
- Use: Accent
- Special Feature: Native, Deer Resistant, Requires male to pollinate

*Photo courtesy of Proven Winners*
Tiny Wine™ Ninebark – *Physocarpus opulifolius* ‘SMPOTW’

- **Type:** Deciduous
- **Hardiness:** 3-7
- **Height:** 3-5’
- **Spread:** 3-4’
- **Sun:** Full
- **Water:** Moderate
- **Maintenance:** Low
- **Tolerates:** Variable soil types and dry soil
- **Use:** Accent
- **Special Feature:** Native

Double Play® Big Bang™ Spirea – *Spirea x* ‘Tracy’

- **Type:** Deciduous
- **Hardiness:** 4-9
- **Height:** 2-3’
- **Spread:** 2-3’
- **Sun:** Full to Part Shade
- **Water:** Moderate
- **Maintenance:** Low
- **Tolerates:** Variable soil types and dry soil
- **Use:** Accent
- **Special Feature:** Leaves emerge orange and fade to yellow/green, Attracts hummingbirds
Prairie Petite Lilac – *Syringa vulgaris* ‘Prairie Petite’
- Type: Deciduous
- Hardiness: 3-7
- Height: 3-4’
- Spread: 3-4’
- Sun: Full
- Water: Moderate, needs good drainage
- Maintenance: Low
- Tolerates: Variable soil types and dry soil, urban conditions (pollution)
- Use: Accent
- Special Feature: Dwarf (3’ after 25 years), Cut flowers, Attracts hummingbirds and butterflies

Bloomerang® Dark Purple Lilac – *Syringa* x’SMSJBP7’
- Type: Deciduous
- Hardiness: 3-7
- Height: 4-6’
- Spread: 4-6’
- Sun: Full
- Water: Moderate, needs good drainage
- Maintenance: Low
- Tolerates: Variable soil types and dry soil
- Use: Accent
- Special Feature: Repeat bloomer, booms in spring and again in summer till frost. Fragrant. Deer Resistant.

Scent and Sensibility™ Pink Lilac – *Syringa* x’SMSXPM’
- Highly fragrant, from the same breeding line as Bloomerang® but isn’t a strong enough rebloomer to be in the Bloomerang® line.

Dwarf Korean Lilac – *Syringa meyeri* ‘Palibin’
- Type: Deciduous
- Hardiness: 3-7
- Height: 4-5’
- Spread: 5-7’
- Sun: Full
- Water: Moderate, needs good drainage
- Maintenance: Low
- Tolerates: Variable soil types and dry soil, Pruning
- Use: Accent
- Special Feature: Extremely Fragrant.