

# ALL ABOUT HYDRANGEAS

Hydrangeas are incredibly popular shrubs to grow. They are summer bloomers, love partial shade (some a little more, some a little less) and with a little extra care, you can grow lovely hydrangeas!

As with all shrubs, hydrangeas like regular, deep watering. Don't rely upon a sprinkler to satisfy these beauties! Try a trickle or drip hose for 30-45 minutes once a week. Hydrangeas demand well-amended soil so add compost, manure and peat moss to your garden beds for these plants. They love reliable moisture but not soggy conditions. Soil- drainage is essential!

## HYDRANGEA MACROPHYLLA- MOPHEAD HYDRANGEAS

Meaning large leaf, the macrophylla hydrangeas have large, usually glossy. Blooms are usually blue, pink or white and some will change color with varying soil pH. Others are bred to be a certain color, and will darken or lighten with changes in soil acidity. Macrophyllas come in mophead or lacecap varieties; meaning that blooms are carried in large balls of uniform florets, or as flat caps with larger florets on the exterior edges. Many varieties are repeat bloomers.

**Endless Summer 'The Original'**. 3-5' H x W, blue or pink depending on soil pH. A reblooming hydrangea that sets buds on old or new wood. Bloom color can be altered by adding more aluminum sulfate to turn blooms dark blue or adding lime to turn blooms pink.

**Endless Summer 'Twist-N-Shout'**. 3-5' H x W, blue or pink lacecap, depending on soil pH. Like the original, this hydrangea blooms on old and new wood. Flowerheads are wide and flat with larger florets on the outer aspects.

**Endless Summer 'Blushing Bride'**. 3-6' H x W, white blooms maturing to pink. As with other Endless Summer varieties, this plant blooms on old and new wood.

**'Big Daddy'**. 5-6' H x W, blue or pink mophead, depending on soil pH. Big Daddy produces huge blooms and large glossy leaves.

**'Glowing Embers'**. 3-5' H x W, fuschia mophead. Large clusters of hot pink blooms cover this upright, rounded shrub until fall. No pruning necessary but deadheading helps blooms.

**'Lemon Daddy'**. 4' H x W, blue or pink mophead, depending on soil pH. Lemon Daddy brightens up a dark area of the garden with intense yellow foliage.

**'Pink Elf'**. 2' H x W, pink mophead. The smallest hydrangea, perfect for the front border or smaller spaces.

## HYDRANGEA ARBORESCENS- 'ANNABELLE' TYPES

These varieties produce huge blooms all summer on new wood, meaning they set buds in the spring and so can be pruned back anytime. All 'Annabelle' types prefer an eastern exposure with afternoon shade. They can 'flag' or wilt in the heat of the afternoon so check the soil for moisture before watering.

**'Annabelle'**- 4-5' H x 3-4' W, white mophead.

**'Incrediball'**- 4-5' H x W, white extra-large mophead.

**'Invincibelle Spirit'**- 3-4' H x W, pink mophead.

## HYDRANGEA PANICULATA- PEE GEE TYPES

Paniculata hydrangeas will grow and bloom in a wide variety of climates and unlike mophead-types, they require at least partial sun to do well but will tolerate full sun. Paniculatas also tolerate pruning very well and can be pruned at any time until they begin to form buds. The name "paniculata" comes from the fact that many of the blooms are panicle-shaped



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(somewhat cone shaped) rather than ball-shaped. Many paniculata blooms develop a lovely pink shade as the blooms age, extending their beauty into the fall.

**'Limelight'**- 6-8' H x 3-5' W. One of the most popular paniculata types. Beautiful chartreuse blooms fade to pink.

**'Little Lime'**- 2-4' H x W. A dwarf version of the popular Limelight!

**'PeeGee Tree' or 'Grandiflora'**- 10-14' H x 8' W. This is the hydrangea tree, lovely rounded form and good dark foliage.

**'Pink Diamond'**- 6' H x W. Flowers turn from white to pink to red over a long season with a very upright habit.

**'Pinky Winky'**- 6' H x W. Bright two-toned flowers, fuschia and white.

**'Quick Fire'**- 6-8' H x 3-5' W. Reliable hydrangea; its blooms change from white to rusty pink.

**'Snow Mountain'**- 6-10' H x W. Takes the heat better than other hydrangeas and does well as a tree.

**'Tardiva'**- 6-8' H x W. Known to hold its lacy blooms into November!

## HYDRANGEA QUERCIFOLIA- OAKLEAF HYDRANGEAS

Oakleaf hydrangeas are native to the U.S. and thrive in sunny, dry locations. They have large, dramatic oak shaped leaves that turn a lovely red/orange/gold in the fall and long, white panicle shaped blooms.

**'Alice'**- 6-8' H x W. Extra-large blooms.

**'Little Honey'**- 3' H x W. This little oakleaf sports brilliant yellow foliage that finishes a brilliant red in fall.

**'Pee Wee'**- 4' H x 3' W, white blooms. A dwarf shrub perfect for smaller gardens. White flower that fades to pink. Beautiful fall foliage, with cinnamon colored bark in the winter.

**'Sikes Oakleaf'**- 3-5' H x W. A taller dwarf with larger bloom panicles.

**'Snow Queen'**- 6-8' H x W. Huge blooms may reach 8" long with purple fall foliage.

**'Snowflake'**- 6-8' H x W. Large double blooms, a rarity in the oakleaf type!



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