

VINES & CLIMBERS

CLIMBING HYDRANGEA - *Hydrangea anomala subsp. Petiolaris*

- **Soil:** Best grown in rich, fertile, moist but well-drained soils. Slow to establish, but quite vigorous thereafter.
- **Sunlight:** Full Shade to Partial Shade.
- **Pruning:** No need to prune. Train on a tree or wall. It is a strong grower, but not aggressive. A vigorous, sprawling, deciduous, woody vine that clings and climbs by twining and aerial rootlets along the stems, typically maturing over time to 30-40' long. Horizontal lateral branching often extends several feet beyond supporting structures. Unsupported vines sometimes will grow in the form of a mounding shrub to 3-4' tall, sprawling along the ground like a ground cover eventually covering an area of up to 200 square feet.
- **Flowering:** Flattened clusters of fragrant, white flowers in a lace cap configuration (small creamy white to greenish yellow fertile flowers in the center with a marginal ring of showy white sterile flowers) bloom in late spring to early summer (June-July). Exfoliating, reddish brown bark of mature plants is attractive in winter. Once established, this vine can develop a somewhat bushy habit, with lateral branches growing out several feet from the support structure, thus giving the foliage a somewhat tiered effect.
- **Watering:** If planted in full sun, sufficient moisture is needed with daily watering on hot dry summer days
- **Fertilizing:** Fertilize shrubs in early spring with a slow release granular specialized for trees and shrubs. pH adaptable.

CLEMATIS VINES

Clematis requires six hours of sunlight for maximum blooming. They prefer a cool soil for their roots. Consider planting annuals or shallow rooted perennials around them. Regular watering is desirable. A clematis is deep rooted, so be sure to water thoroughly.

- **Planting:** Dig a generous hole and amend clay soil with a planting mix. Avoid manure mixes. Clematis likes a rich, well-drained, slightly alkaline soil. Fertilize with a starter liquid fertilizer.
- **Pruning:** Some clematis bloom on new wood and some on old. So, the best time to prune is in early summer after you determine which stems from the previous season are going to bloom or not. Dead wood can be clipped away at this time, too.

General Care

- **Early spring:** Jackmanii and Sweet Autumn clematis cut back to 12" above the ground.
- **Mid-spring:** continue a monthly feeding of fertilizer. Gently support new growth.
- **Late Spring :** Mulch if desired but keep mulch away from crown.
- **Summer:** watch for signs of fungal wilt and remove any affected branching. Be sure to clean your pruners afterwards with rubbing alcohol.
- **Fall:** make sure vines are secure to supports. If it has been a dry year, water well and deeply before frost. If the clematis is newly planted this past year, mulch for winter protection.

HONEYSUCKLE VINE - *Lonicera spp.*

Bloom period: Honeysuckle season is typically May through midsummer, with some varieties blooming into autumn.

Flower Characteristics: Honeysuckle flowers grow in clusters at the branch tips, forming pinwheels of tubular blossoms in an array of shades, from pale pastels to rich reds. Most varieties are heavily scented, making them a magnet for butterflies, bees, and hummingbirds. Often the flowers are followed by small red or orange berries in the fall.

***Lonicera sempervirens* 'Dropmore Scarlet**

A lovely hybrid especially hardy in colder climates, producing scarlet-red blooms from June until first frost.
Ht. 10-20 feet

***Lonicera sempervirens* 'Major Wheeler'**

This knock-your-socks-off bloomer is covered with dazzling ruby-red flowers all summer long and well into fall. It blooms on the previous year's growth as well as new growth, so it can be pruned after flowering to encourage repeat blooming. Ht.6-10 feet

***Lonicera periclymenum* 'Scentsation'**

The sweet, heady fragrance of this super-scented cultivar will fill your garden all summer long, emanating from cheery lemon-yellow flowers that bloom from mid-spring to late summer, followed by scarlet red berries. Ht. 10-12 feet.

Trumpet Creeper - *Campsis radicans*

- This perennial woody vine is up to 40' long, branching occasionally. Trumpet Creeper usually climbs up trees, shrubs, telephone poles, and other vertical structures using aerial rootlets, otherwise it sprawls across the ground.
- The blooming period occurs during the summer and lasts about 2 months. The abundance of flowers is variable; there is no floral scent.
- Typical growing conditions are partial sun, low levels of moisture, and various kinds of soil, including loam, clay-loam, and rocky. Full sun is also tolerated. This aggressive vine requires ample space and vertical support. It has few problems with pests and disease.

Wisteria Vine

Wisteria vines grow upward from a central stem, and have been trained into tree (standard) form, but do best as a climber. Some varieties grow to up to 30 feet long. In the first few years after being planted (assuming you're planting a vine produced from a cutting, not from seed), it should grow slowly, but once the vine has been in its permanent location for a few years, it will grow very aggressively and will need pruned frequently to make sure it doesn't take over nearby structures or trees.

- Blooms:** Depending on the species, flowers hang in cascades ranging from 10 to 80 centimeters long.
- Planting:** Wisteria needs a lot of sun in order to flower. Plant it somewhere where it will get at least 6 hours of sun each day.