



**Aylett Nurseries**  
*The Complete Garden Centre*

# Alpines & Rockery Plants

**Information Leaflet No. 1**




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**ACAENA** – Common name New Zealand Burr. Mat forming perennial for a sunny or part shaded site with well drained soil.


**ACHILLEA** – Common name Alpine Yarrow. Sunny site and sharp drainage. All have ferny mat-forming foliage. Height 15-20cm Spread 23cm.

**King Edward** – Semi- evergreen soft grey leaves. Pale yellow flower heads in tight clusters in summer.

**Tomentosa Aurea** – Woolly green leaves and bright yellow flowers in summer. 

**ACINOS ALPINUS** – Evergreen perennial. Sunny position. Spike like whorls of red/violet flowers. Height 15cm, Spread 20cm.

**AJUGA** – Common name Bugle. Part shade with moist soil. Height 15-20cm spreads freely.

**Catlins' Giant** – The tallest variety. Blue flowers in spring, large purple leaves. Good ground cover. 

**Reptans Atropurpurea** – Blue flowers. Purple variegated foliage.

**Reptans Braunherz** – Blue flowers in spring.

**Reptans Burgundy Glow** – Silvery leaves suffused pink.

**Reptans Rainbow** – Rich blue flowers, bronze, cream and pink variegated foliage.

**ALYSSUM** – Syn. Aurinia requires a sunny well-drained position. Good for dry walls. Height 20-30cm.

**Mountain Gold** – Mat forming variety with grey leaves and bright yellow flowers.

**Saxatile** – Rosettes of grey foliage, clusters of golden flowers.

**Saxatile Gold Ball** – Rosette forming, with large clusters of bright yellow flowers.

**ANACYCLUS DEPRESSUS** – Hardy perennial. Sunny position. Golden eyed white daisy flowers May/June. Height 75cm, Spread 25cm.

**ANTENNARIA** – Common name Pussy Toes. Evergreen mat forming perennial. Well drained sunny site. Height 5cm Spread 45cm.

**Dioica** – Grey leaves, with white undersides. White or pink fluffy flower heads in May-June.

**ANTHEMIS** – Common name double chamomile. Good soil in sun.

**Nobilis Flore Plena** – Double white daisy like flowers. June-August. Aromatic foliage. Height 15cm Spread 45cm.

**AQUILEGA** – Common name Columbine. Herbaceous perennial for sun or light shade. Well drained soil.

**Alpina** – Nodding blue flowers, sometimes white tipped. May. Height 30cm Spread 25cm.

**Viridiflora** – Unusual fragrant green and purple flowers over divided foliage. Height 25cm Spread 25cm.

**ARABIS** – Evergreen for sun or light shade. Average soil.

**Caucasica Variegata** – ‘Rock Cress’ White four petalled flowers April – May. Attractive gold edged foliage. Height 15cm Spread 50cm.

**Ferdinandi – Coburgii Variegata** – Mat forming evergreen, spreads by runners. Cream edged foliage. Sprays of white flowers in spring. Height 5-8cm Spread 40cm.

**Ferdinandi – Old Gold** – Attractive golden variegated foliage. White spring flowers. Height 5cm Spread 40cm.

**Snowball** – Mats of grey-green foliage. Pure white flowers April-June. Good contrast to Aubrieta. Height 15cm Spread 35cm.

**Spring Charm** – Dark green foliage, sometimes tinged purple. Intense carmine flowers March – June. Height 20cm Spread 60cm.

**ARENARIA** – Common name Sandwort. Mat-forming perennial. Sunny, well drained site.

**Balearica** – Shiny evergreen mats of foliage studded with white flowers all summer. Height 1cm Spread 30cm.

**Caespitosa Aurea** – Dense mats of golden foliage. Height 1cm Spread 20cm.

**Montana** – Vigorous evergreen with cup shaped white flowers in early summer. Good for rock crevices. Height 5cm Spread 30cm. 🏆

**ARMERIA** – Common name Thrift. Evergreen hummock forming alpine for a sunny well drained position.

**Juniperifolia** syn. **Caespitosa** – Spiky hummocks of foliage studded with spherical pink flowers. Height 5cm Spread 15cm. 🏆


**Maritima** – Tussocks of grassy foliage. Flowers held on long stems. Height 20cm Spread 30cm.

**Maritima Alba** – White form of the above. Height 20cm Spread 30cm.

**Maritima ‘Dusseldorf Pride’** – Spherical red flowers. Height 15cm Spread 30cm.

**Martima Splendens** – Rosy red flower heads. Height 15-20cm.

**ASTER** – Clump forming perennial for sun or light shade. Well drained soil.

**Alpinus** – Purple flowers with yellow centres from early summer. Height 25cm Spread 45cm. 

**ASTILBE** – Common name Goats' Beard. Sun or part shade moist soil.

**Chinensis Pumila** – Spikes of rosy mauve flowers on mats of bronze-green foliage in summer. Height 25cm Spread 20cm.


**AUBRETIA** – Common name Wall Cress. Evergreen mat forming perennial, average soil. Well drained sunny position. Height 5cm Spread 60cm.


**Blue Cascade** – Mounds of blue flowers in Spring.


**Bressingham Red** – Dense mats of deep red flowers April-May.

**Cascade** – A mixture of blues, mauves and purples.

**Dr. Mules Variegata** – Rose-lilac flowers against cream variegated foliage.

**Royal Blue** – Mats of deep blue flowers March-May. 

**Royal Lavender** – Mats of deep lavender flowers March-May. 

**Royal Rose** – Mounds of rosy pink flowers March-May. 


**Royal Violet** – Mounds of deep violet purple flowers March-May. 


**CALCEOLARIA** – Common name Slipper Flower. Moist, well drained soil in part shade.

**Biflora** – Mat forming variety with bright yellow slipper flowers over several months. Height 15cm Spread 20cm.

**Darwinii** – Unusual flowers are yellow with brown speckles and a white band across the 'pouch'. Height 15cm Spread 30cm.

**CAMPANULA** – Common name Bellflower. Average soil, sunny position.

**Birch Hybrid** – Evergreen perennial with masses of lavender-blue flowers May – September. Height 10cm Spread 50cm. 

**Carpatica** – Clump forming plant with cup shaped blue flowers over several months. Height 30cm Spread 30-60cm. 


**Carpatica Alba** – White form of the above.

**Dicksons Gold** – Attractive golden foliage contrasts with sky blue flowers in summer. Height 10cm Spread 20cm.

**Elizabeth Oliver** – Thimble shaped fully double flowers of delicate powder blue. Height 8cm Spread 30cm.

**Garganica** – Spreading plant with trailing sprays of starry blue flowers. Height 5 cm Spread 30cm.

**Glomerata Acaulis**– Stemless purple flowers May – September. Height 5 – 15cm Spread 20cm.

**Portenschlagiana** – syn. **Muralis** – Mound forming perennial with numerous tubular blue flowers mid-summer. Height 15cm Spread 50cm. 

**Portenschlagiana Rescholts Variety** – Very deep blue variety of the above. Height 15cm Spread 50cm.

**Poscharskyana**– Vigorous variety with sprays of star shaped pale blue flowers in summer. Height 15cm Spread 60-80cm.

**Poscharskyana E.H. Frost**– As above, but with sprays of white flowers.

**Pulla**– Large violet blue bell shaped flowers held singly. Height 5cm Spread 30cm.

**Pusilla** syn. **Cochlearifolia** ‘**Fairies Thimbles**’- Rosettes of foliage and thimble shaped lavender to slate blue flowers. Height 8cm Spread 30cm.

**Pusilla Alba** – as pusilla, but with dainty white flowers.

**CERASTIUM ALP. LANATUM** – Perennial for sunny position. White flowers above silvery foliage in Spring. Height 10cm, Spread 20cm.

**CHIASTOPHYLLUM** syn. **Cotyledon** – Spreading evergreen with scalloped leaves. Well drained average to poor soil. Height 15cm Spread 15cm.


**Simplicifolia** ‘**Golden Chain**’ – Has long sprays of golden flowers in spring.

**Frosted Jade** – Foliage has attractive cream edging. Yellow spring flowers.

**CYMBALARIA** – Common name Ivy-leaved Toadflax. Sunny well drained position. Good on dry walls.

**Muralis** – Flowers resemble miniature snap dragons in purple-blue. Summer flowering. Height 5cm Spread 50cm.

**DIANTHUS** – Evergreen perennials for well drained sunny position. We have a large range, including the following:-


**Alpinus** – Greyish grassy foliage. Sweetly scented flowers in a range of colours. Height 8cm Spread 10cm. 

**Artic Star** – Fragrant double white flowers. Height 10cm.

**Boydii** – Delicate fringed pink flowers with red eye. Height 9cm, Spread 20cm.

**Brilliant Star** – Fragrant double white flowers with deep red eye. Height 5-7cm. 

**Deltoides** – Mat forming evergreen 'Maiden Pinks' come in a range of colours, red, white and pink. Height 20cm Spread 30cm.


**Evening Star** – Rich double pink flowers with a deep red eye. Height 7-10cm. 


**Fusilier – Cerise** – Red double flowers June-August. Height 15cm, Spread 25cm.

**Gypsy Star** – Bright cerise pink flowers. Height 10cm, Spread 20cm.

**Little Jock** – Light pink flowers on grey foliage. Height 8cm Spread 10cm.

**Neon Star** – Bright purple fragrant flowers. Height 5-7cm. 

**Pikes Pink** – Gloriously fragrant pale pink flowers with darker banding. Height 15cm Spread 20cm. 

**Pixie Star** – Rosy pink flowers with deep pink eye. Height 5-7cm. 

**Warden Hybrid** – Strongly scented magenta flowers. Height 8-12cm.

**Whatfield Gem** – Double red-pink flowers. Height 10cm Spread 20cm.


**Whatfield Joy** – Scented vibrant pink flowers. Height 15cm, Spread 25cm.

**DRABA** – Common name Whitlow Grass. Gritty soil in full sun.

**Aizoides** – forms cushions of semi evergreen foliage. Densely covered with golden yellow flowers in late spring. Height 10cm Spread 25cm.

**DRYAS** – Common name Mountains Avens.

Well drained gritty soil in sun or part shade.

**Octopetala** – Anemone like white flowers followed by attractive fluffy seedheads. Dark glossy evergreen leaves. Height 10cm Spread 30cm. 

**ERODIUM** – Common name Stork's bill. Sunny well drained position.

**Chamaedryoides Album** – Syn. **Variable** – Cushion forming plant with small scalloped edged leaves, and small red veined white flowers in summer. Height 5cm Spread 30cm.

**Chamaedryoides Roseum** – As 'Album' but with clear pink flowers.

**FRANKENIA 'THYMIFOLIA'** – Evergreen perennial for sunny position. Masses of pink flowers all summer. Height 2.5cm, Spread 20cm.

**GENTIANA** – Hardy evergreen or semi evergreen plants. Moist, well drained soil. Light shade. Autumn flowering varieties require an acid soil.

**Acaulis** – Mat forming evergreen. Rich blue trumpet flowers in spring. Height 8cm Spread 30cm. 🏆

**Kingfisher** – Semi evergreen autumn gentian. Vivid blue trumpets 4cm long. Height 5cm Spread 30cm.

**Macaulayi** – Semi evergreen autumn gentian. Pale blue flowers shaded mauve. Height 5cm Spread 30cm. 🏆

**Septemfida** – Non evergreen. Produces bell shaped purple-blue flowers with white throats in summer. Best in a sunny position. Height 15-20cm Spread 30cm. 🏆

**Septemfida Lagodechiana** – Prostrate form of Septemfida. Height 8cm Spread 30cm. 🏆

**Sino-Ornata** – Prostrate autumn gentian. Semi evergreen with bright blue trumpet flowers striped purple inside and white outside. Height 5cm Spread 20cm. 🏆

**Strathmore** – Autumn gentian with large sky blue flowers. Height 15cm Spread 30cm. 🏆


**Verna** – 'Spring Gentian' Mat forming evergreen. Intense blue star shaped flowers. Height 4cm Spread 10cm.

**GERANIUM** – Common name Cranesbill. Perennial for sunny well drained position.

**Ballerina** – Greyish leaves and large lilac veined purple flowers. Height 15cm Spread 30cm.

**Dalmaticum** – Usually evergreen. Pale pink flowers in summer. Height 15cm Spread 50cm. 🏆

**Sub. Guiseppi** – Vivid magenta/purple with dark eyes. Height 15cm, Spread 25cm. 🏆

**Subcaulescens Splendens** – Dark eyed magenta flowers. Height 10-15cm Spread 30cm. 

**GYPSOPHILA** – Excellent plants for well drained sunny positions, forming mats of foliage studded with flowers all summer.

**Cerastoides** – Grey leaves and trumpet shaped white flowers. Height 5cm Spread 15cm.

**Repens Rosea** – Bluish-green leaves and masses of starry pink flowers Height 20cm Spread 50cm.

**HELIANTHEMUM** – Common name Rock Rose. Well drained sunny site. Prune hard after flowering to keep plants neat, and encourage more flowers the following year. Evergreen. Height 15cm Spread 45cm.

We offer many varieties including the following:-

**Ben Afflick** – Buff-orange.

**Ben Fhada** – Single yellow with orange eye.

**Ben Ledi** – Single rose red.


**Ben Mohr** – Deep orange single.

**Ben Nevis** – Tawny orange single.

**Cerise Queen** – Rosy red double flowers.


**Fireball** – Bright red double.

**Georgeham** – Rich pink single.


**Henfield Brilliant** – Rich deep orange single. 

**Rose Queen** – Clear pink flowers.

**Sudbury Gem** – Deep rose pink/flame centered.

**The Bride** – White flowers against silver foliage. 


**Wisley Pink** – Pink single flowers. Silver grey foliage.

**Wisley Primrose** – Pale yellow on grey foliage. 

**Wisley White** – Single white on grey foliage.



**HYPERICUM** – Evergreen perennial. Sunny well drained site.


**Olympicum** – Grey green foliage, large yellow flowers with prominent stamens. Height 15cm Spread 40cm. 

**Poly. Grandiflorum** – Blue-grey foliage, rich golden yellow flowers. Height 20cm, spread 30cm.

**IBERIS** – Common name Perennial Candytuft. Evergreen for sunny well drained site. Height 20cm Spread 60cm.

**Dick Self** – Dense heads of white flowers.

**Golden Candy** – Pure white spring flowers with golden foliage.

**Sempervirens** – Dark green foliage. Crowded heads of pure white flowers. 

**LEONTPODIUM** – Common name 'Eidlelweiss'. Well drained gritty soil in sun.

**Alpinum** – Woolly grey leaves are topped with unusual flowers resembling small flannel starfish. Height 15cm Spread 25cm.

**LEPTINELLA** – Alpine perennial for sun or light shade and well drained soil.

**Platts Black** – Small button-shaped flowers late spring. Dark brown/black feathery foliage. Height 5-7.5cm.

**LEWISIA** – Evergreen requiring sun and perfect drainage. Protect from winter wet. Best when planted on side in rock garden crevices.

**Ashwood Strain** – Showy clusters of pink, peach or white flowers, over rosettes of long green leaves. Height 25cm Spread 20cm.

**Cotyledon** – Funnel shaped striped pink flowers Height 30 cm Spread 25cm. 

**Nevadensis** – Small rosettes bearing starry white flowers. Height 10cm Spread 10cm.

**LINUM** – 'Perennial Flax' Sunny site. Sandy soil.

**Perenne** – Wiry clumps of greyish foliage. Sky blue flowers. Height 20cm Spread 30cm.

**LITHOSPERMUM syn. LITHODORA** – Creeping evergreen for sunny position. Humus-rich soil.

**Alba** – White flowers from April-August. Height 15-30cm, spread 30-40cm.

**Heavenly Blue** – Close mats of green foliage studded with gentian blue flowers. Height 15cm Spread 60cm.

**Star** – as ‘Heavenly Blue’ but flowers have white background and blue central stripe. Height 15-30cm, spread 30-40cm.

**MENTHA** -‘Corsican Mint’

**Requiennii** – mat forming mint scented foliage. Height 1cm Spread 75cm.

**MIMULUS** – ‘Monkey Musk’ Sun or light shade, moist soil.

**Andean Nymph** – Creamy pink flowers heavily speckled at throat. Height 20cm Spread 30cm.

**Highland Orange** – Clear orange flowers in profusion. Height 10cm Spread 40cm.


**Highland Yellow** – Pale primrose yellow Height 10cm Spread 40cm.

**Whitecroft Scarlet** – Glowing Scarlet – Orange flowers Height 10cm Spread 15cm.

**MORISIA** – Alpine perennial for sunny position.

**Mon. Fred Hemingway** – Striking clusters of yellow flowers in early summer. Height 5cm, spread 15cm.

**OXALIS** – ‘Alpine Shamrock’ Sunny well drained position.

**Adenophylla** – Shamrock like leaflets. Large pink flowers with white centres. Deciduous bulb. Height 10cm Spread 15cm. 

**PAPAVER** – ‘Alpine Poppy’ Gritty soil, sunny position.

**Alpinum** – Tuft forming alpine with saucer shaped flowers of orange, yellow and white. Height 15cm Spread 10cm.

**PARAHEBE** – Shrubby alpine. Any average soil. Sunny site.

**Catarractae** – Slender sprays of white flowers veined purple. Height 30cm Spread 30cm.

**PENSTEMON** – Alpine sub-shrub. Well drained sunny site.

**Blue Gem** – Spikes of sky blue flowers from June-August. Height/spread 30cm.

**PERSICARIA** – (formerly POLYGONUM) Evergreen spreading plants, sunny well drained position.


**Affine** – Green mats of foliage turn bronze in winter. Poker like spikes of bright pink flowers. Height 25cm Spread 60cm.

**Donald Lowndes** – as Affine, but with pale pink flowers.

**PHLOX** - Gritty soil, sunny site.

**Chattahoochee** – Semi-green evergreen with lavender blue flowers with red eyes. Height 15cm Spread 30cm.

**Douglasii Varieties** – Mound forming evergreens, summer flowering. Height 20cm Spread 30cm. We offer many varieties including:-

**Boothmans variety** – Mauve, violet eye. 

**Redwings** – Rounded, red flowers.

**Rose Cushion** – Rose pink.

**Subulata Varieties** – Mossy foliage forming cushions of evergreen leaves. Height 5-15cm Spread 50cm. We offer the following:

**Amazing Grace** – Pale pink with deep pink edges.

**Candy Stripe** – Pink and white striped flowers April-May.

**McDaniels Cushion** – Very deep pink. 

**G.F. Wilson** – Sky blue.

**POTENTILLA** – Common name Cinquefoil. Perennial for sunny well-drained position.

**Tonguei** – Bowl shaped apricot yellow flowers with red eyes. Height 10cm Spread 30cm.

**Verna Nana** syn. **Tabernaemontani** – Tiny strawberry like leaves, bright yellow saucer shaped flowers. Height 10cm Spread 30cm.

**PRATIA** – Prostrate evergreens best in moist soil, part or full shade.

**County Park** – Small violet blue flowers. Height 3cm Spread 30-45 cm.

**Pedunculata** – Starry turquoise flowers. Height 1-5cm Spread 80cm.

**Treadwellii** – White starry flowers marked with purple. Height 6cm Spread 1m.

**PRIMULA** – Common name primrose. Part shade, humus-rich soil.

**Acaulis** – Rosette forming plants in a range of colours. Height 20cm Spread 35cm.

**Auricula** – Grey leathery leaves. Flowers often in distinctly banded colours. Mealy stems. Best in gritty soil and sun. Height 10cm Spread 20cm.

**Beesiana** – Candelabras of pink – peach flowers. Height 30-60cm.

**Denticulata** – Drumstick variety. Dense heads of blue, mauve, red or white flowers. Height/spread 45cm. 🏆

**Florindae** – Giant Cowslip. Fragrant yellow flowers. Height 1.2m, spread 90cm. 🏆

**Froncosa** – Deciduous variety with pink, mauve or purple flowers in loose clusters. Height 15cm Spread 25cm. 🏆

**Harlow Carr Hybrids** – Candelabra primula. Good for watersides. Height/spread 30cm.

**Rosea** – Deciduous variety, bronze flushed. New leaves emerge after the vivid pink flowers in early spring. Height 20cm Spread 20cm. 🏆

**Veris** – (Cowslips) Mixed colours. Very fragrant variety. Height 25cm Spread 25cm. 🏆

**Vialli** – Poker like flowers, red buds open to lilac. Height 60cm, spread 30cm. 🏆

**Vulgaris** – (Primrose) Woodland garden favourite, masses of yellow flowers in early spring. Height 20cm Spread 35cm. 🏆

**V. Wanda** – Wine red primrose. Height 20cm Spread 35cm. 🏆

**RAOULIA** – Evergreen alpine for sheltered sunny site, well drained gritty soil. Height 1cm Spread 30cm.

**Australis** – Silvery leaves forming a dense mat. Tiny pale yellow flowers.

**Hookeri** – Minute rosettes of silver foliage covered in silky hairs. Protect from winter wet.

**SAPONARIA** – Common name Soapwort. Sunny well-drained position.

**Ocymoides** – (Tumbling Ted) Spreading evergreen, with purple-backed leaves and profuse deep pink summer flowers. 🏆

**SAXIFRAGA** – Evergreen alpine for sunny, well drained position.

**Aizoon Cream** – Cream flowers over striking encrusted foliage. Height 15cm.

**Apiculata** – tight rosettes of encrusted green leaves cup shaped yellow flowers. Height 20cm Spread 30 cm.

**Burseriana** – Firm rosettes of grey-green leaves cup shaped white flowers. Height 5cm Spread 15cm.

**Cloth of Gold** – Mossy variety. Forms cushions of golden foliage. Cream flowers. Keeps its colour best in shade. Height 10cm  
Spread 30cm.


**Elf** – Cushion forming carmine flowers Height 10cm Spread 30cm.

**Southside Seedling** – White flowers spotted red. Height 35cm Spread 30cm. 

**Stanisfieldii** – Fine sprays of light pink flowers. Height 8cm, spread 15cm.

**Triumph** – Blood red flowers on long stems. Height 15cm, spread 40cm.

**Umbrosa** – Leathery rosettes with pink starry flowers. Height 30cm Spread 30cm.

**Whitehills** – Lime encrusted rosettes, arching flower stems. Height 35cm Spread 30cm. 

**Winston Churchill** – Dainty red flowers over neat foliage. Height/spread 15-25cm.

**SCABIOSA** – Evergreen rosettes forming alpine well drained sunny soil. Protect from excessive winter wet.

**Alpina** –syn. **Celphalaria Alpina** – Violet blue to powder blue flowers on wiry stems. Height 30cm Spread 25cm.

**SEDUM** – Common name Stonecrop. Sunny well drained site.

**Acre Aurea** – Sulphur yellow tipped foliage. Yellow starry flowers. Height 5cm Spread 60cm.

**Ewersii** – Rose pink flowers on branching stems over fleshy blue/grey foliage. Height/spread 20cm.

**Goldmound** – Mat forming golden foliage with yellow flowers in summer. Height 15cm, spread 40cm.

**Kamtschaticum** – Glossy spoon shaped leaves, clusters of golden star shaped flowers. Height 10cm Spread 25cm.

**Lidakense** – Pink flowers, blue/green purple tinged foliage. Height 10cm, spread 15cm.

**Lineare** – Bright yellow flowers over variegated foliage. Height 10cm, spread 30cm.

**Rupestre** – Mat forming, grey-green fleshy foliage with yellow flowers. Height 100cm, spread 60cm.

**Spathulifolium** – Fleshy rosettes of foliage tinted bronze. Height 10cm Spread 60cm.

**Spathulifolium Cape Blanco** – As Spathulifolium, but powdered with white bloom. 

**Spathulifolium Purpureum** - Richly suffused burgundy-purple. 🏆

**Spurium** – Spreading mats of foliage. Flat heads of starry pink flowers. Height 10cm Spread 60cm.

**Spurium Dragons' Blood** – as Spurium but purple tinted foliage.

**Weihensephaner Gold** – Masses of bright yellow flowers. Height 10cm Spread 60cm.

**SEMPERVIVELLA** – Average soil, sunny position.

**Alba** – Rosettes of foliage, white flowers. Height 10cm Spread 20cm.

**SEMPERVIVUM** – Common name Houseleek. Prefers poor gritty soil in full sun. Height 15cm Spread 50cm unless stated.

**Arachnoideum** – 'Cobweb Houseleek'. Fleshy rosettes are cobwebbed with white hairs. Leafy stems of pink flowers. Height 8cm Spread 30cm. 🏆

**Blood Tip** – Large green rosettes with red tips. Red flowers.

**Guiseppi** – Grey/green neat mounded foliage. Magenta dark eyed flowers. Height 15cm, Spread 25cm. 🏆

**Royal Ruby** – Rosettes of fleshy ruby coloured foliage year round.

**Snowberger** – Fleshy rosettes with a white sheen in summer.

**Spring Mist** – Clusters of grey green foliage, tinged scarlet pink flowers. Height 100cm, spread 20cm.

**Woolcotts Variety** – Clusters of green foliage tinged silver pink starry flowers. Height 10cm, spread 20cm.

**SILENE** – Common name Champion.

**Schafta** – Clumps of bright green leaves. Vivid magenta flowers in spring. Height 25cm Spread 30cm. 🏆

**Maritima Alba** – Bell shaped white flowers on grey green mats of foliage. Height 15cm Spread 20cm.

**SISYRINCHIUM** – Common name Blue-eyed Grass. Poor soil in full sun. Protect from excessive winter wet.

**Bellum** – Semi-evergreen Iris like leaves. Star shaped violet blue flowers with yellow throats. Height 12cm Spread 15cm.

**Brachypus** – Grey green leaves. Creamy yellow flowers. Height 60cm Spread 15cm.

**E.K. Balls** – Star shaped mauve flowers. Height 25cm Spread 15cm.

**Striatum ‘Aunt May’** – Grey leaves striped cream. Pale yellow flowers. Height 50cm Spread 25cm.

**THYMUS** – Evergreen mat forming sub-shrub. Sunny well drained position. Height 10cm Spread 40cm unless stated.


**Bressingham Pink** – Tiny green leaves, round heads of pink flowers. Height 10cm, spread 35cm.

**Citriodorus Andersons Gold** – Golden yellow foliage.

**Citriodorus Archers Gold** – Golden yellow foliage.

**Citriodorus Silver Queen** – Lemon scented foliage variegated silver. Height 30cm Spread 25cm.


**Doone Valley** – Green and gold foliage with lavender-pink flowers. Height 12cm, spread 35cm.

**Serp. Pink Chintz** – Clear pink flowers. Aromatic foliage. Height 5cm, spread 45-60cm. 

**Serp. Highland Cream** – Attractive green-cream variegated foliage. Lilac flowers.

**Serp. Minimus** – Low dense green foliage with clusters of pink flowers. Height 5cm.

**VERONICA** – Common name Speedwell. Prostrate evergreen for average well drained soil in sun.

**Prostrata** – Bright green foliage and short spikes of intense blue flowers. Height 15cm Spread 40cm. 

**Mrs. Holt** – As Prostrata, but with pink flowers.

**Spode Blue** – China blue form of Prostrata. 

**VIOLA** – Common name Violet. Moist well drained soil in sun or part shade.

**Ardross Gem** – Masses of blue and gold flowers over a long period. Height 15cm Spread 30cm.

**Bowles Black** – Small, almost black flowers all summer. Semi-shaded position. Height 7cm Spread 25cm.

**Cornuta Alba** – Abundant, slightly fragrant white flowers. Height 15cm Spread 40cm. 

**C. Maggie Mott** – Copper yellow fragrant flowers. Height 15cm Spread 40cm.

**Elizabeth** – Fragrant Lavender flowers with pale yellow centre. Height 10cm, spread 25cm.

**Irish Molly** – Massed yellow and green flowers. Height 15cm Spread 20cm.

**Labradorica Purpurea** – Bronze-purple leaves and violet blue flowers. Tolerates deep shade and makes good ground cover. Height 10cm Spread 40cm.

**Molly Sanderson** – Showy black velvety flowers. Height 15cm Spread 20cm. 

**Odorata** – ‘Sweet Violet’ Sweetly scented flowers in various colours. Height 10cm Spread 30cm.

**Queen Charlotte** – Sweetly scented blue-purple flowers. Height 20cm.

**Rebecca** – Creamy white flowers streaked mauve, every flower is different. Height 10cm Spread 25cm.

**Zoe** – Mauve flowers with yellow face. Height 10cm, spread 25cm.

 = RHS award of garden merit



# **ALPINE SINK OR TROUGH GARDENS**

If you have limited space, but wish to grow as many alpines as possible, then containers are the perfect answer. Most alpines will grow happily in containers if they are given suitable drainage.

Many types of containers are available in a variety of materials, stone and terracotta being the most suitable. Old glazed sinks may also be given a new lease of life by coating them with 'hypertufa'. This gives the appearance of hewn stone, a perfect background for alpines.

Hypertufa is made as follows: -

Mix together-	2 parts sand
	2 parts peat
	1 part cement

Add water until the mixture is the consistency of thick porridge.

Score the glazed surface of the sink with a chisel, apply a coat of epoxy glue to provide grip, then coat the sink with the hypertufa mixture. The mixture can be modelled and chipped to give a natural appearance.

## **POSITIONING**

All containers must be raised above ground level to allow for drainage, a few centimetres will suffice, but obviously if they are able to be raised a little higher, one can more easily appreciate the beauty of such dainty plants.

A sunny open site is needed; alpines are not generally troubled by frost or wind, but dislike being under the drip of trees or buildings. They are a good choice for sunny balconies, where wind damage may be a problem with other plants.

## **PREPARATION**

Put the container in its permanent position before filling. Cover the drainage holes with mesh or crocks, and add a 4cm layer of moist peat over the drainage material. Mix 2 parts of John Innes No. 2 compost with 1 part grit to fill the container. Make sure the compost is well firmed in. Leave about 4cm between the top of the compost and the edge of the container, to allow for watering.

Once planting is complete, the surface of the compost should be covered with grit. This not only improves the appearance of the finished container, but also provides drainage around the 'neck' of the plants, and prevents them from being soiled by compost during watering.

Large stones may also be added to give height, and enhance the appearance of the planting.

# **HOW TO CONSTRUCT A ROCKERY GARDEN**

Rock gardens can be an impressive and attractive addition to the garden, but require careful planning to live up to their potential. Before you begin there are a few things to consider.

Rock plants, also referred to as Alpine plants, for the most part require an open, sunny site away from overhanging trees. A south or west facing position would be ideal.

The soil needs to be free draining – more alpenes are killed by winter wet than by frost. This usually means that grit and compost will need to be added to the existing soil to improve its texture.

Size is also an important consideration, where space is limited, a small raised bed looks far more effective than a tiny rockery.

Since few gardens will possess the perfect south/west slope, artificial slopes or hillocks can be created. A popular method is to create a pond at the same time as the rock garden, using the spoil dug from building the pond. Remember though that simply throwing the soil to one side as you dig will leave you with infertile sub-soil on top. Take the good topsoil when you start and put it to one side.

If you have no-where to dig soil from, topsoil may be purchased from us by the tonne or in 25lt. bags.

When you have decided on your site, clear it of weeds. Preferably by using a glyphosate based weedkiller, which will ensure that no roots will be left to re-grow, roughly dig over the area, adding rubble to create better drainage.

Build up the rocks using the largest pieces as the base. Vary the spacing between the rocks, and keep the strata lines running in the same direction for a natural effect. Always use the same type of rock for the whole of the rockery. When you have the rocks positioned, fill in

with topsoil, grit and compost mixed in roughly equal parts. Ram the soil in between the cracks to ensure there are no air pockets.

Continue with the next tier of rocks, lining up the vertical joints rather than staggering them, this gives the impression of vertical fault lines.

The proportional size should be a rise of 30cm for every 60cm width. Angle the rocks back into the slope as you build. Stand back occasionally to check you are achieving the desired effect.

When you have reached the required height it is best to let the soil settle for a week or two before planting up.

When you have finished planting it is beneficial to mulch the soil surface with grit. This improves drainage around the neck of the plant, and prevents soiling of leaves and flowers besides looking attractive.

Choose your plants with care, and plan where you will put the individual plants. The effect should be of a miniature rock garden. Dwarf conifers or deciduous sub-shrubs may also be used to give height and interest.

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