

Top 20 Perennials for Sun

Flame Acanthus

Anisacanthus wrightii **Color:** Red Orange **Blooms:** Summer to Fall **Light:** Sun/PartShade **Height:** 3'-4' **Soil:** Well Drained
Upright shrubby perennial with shiny green leaves, blooms reddish orange tubular flowers in summer. Hummingbirds love this plant. Very delicate plant makes a good contrast in flower beds. Very tough and drought tolerant.

Autumn Sage

Salvia greggii **Color:** Mixed **Blooms:** Spring to Fall **Light:** Sun/PartShade **Height:** 36" **Soil:** Well Drained
Red, Pink, Coral, Purple, Yellow, and White flowers bloom all spring and fall. Needs good drainage. Evergreen farther south, semi-evergreen in our area and returns each spring.

Blackeyed Susan 'Goldsturm'

Rudbeckia fulgida **Color:** Gold **Blooms:** Summer **Light:** Sun/PartShade **Height:** 24"-36" **Soil:** Well Drained
This selected, compact strain of a native Texas perennial is fast becoming a favorite. Blooms mid to late summer with masses of golden yellow black-eyed daisies. Sun loving and drought resistant. Hardy.

Coneflower 'White Swan' or 'Magnus'

Echinacea purpurea **Color:** White or Purple **Blooms:** Summer **Light:** Sun/PartShade **Height:** 18"-24" **Soil:** Well Drained
Very hardy summer bloomer with white or purple flowers. Great for cut flowers. Remove old flower heads to increase flowering.

Daylily 'Stella d'Oro'

Hemerocallis x hybrida **Color:** Gold **Blooms:** Summer **Light:** Sun/PartShade **Height:** 12"-20" **Soil:** Moist Well Drained
Beautiful miniature with yellow, fragrant flowers all summer. A must have!

Gaura Lindheimer's

Gaura lindheimeri **Color:** White **Blooms:** Summer **Light:** Sun **Height:** 3'-4' **Soil:** Well Drained
Delicate white and pink flowers that look like Butterflies. This perennial will bloom throughout summer and fall. Great for that English garden or wildflower meadow.

Lantana, Hardy

Lantana camara **Color:** Yellow & Pink **Blooms:** Summer to Fall **Light:** Sun/PartShade **Height:** 3'-6' **Soil:** Poor Drainage
This is the old fashioned hardy Lantana found in many country gardens. Covered all summer and fall with bright orange, pink and yellow flowers. Butterflies love this one! Easy to grow.

Ruellia 'Katie's Dwarf'

Ruellia brittoniana **Color:** Purple **Blooms:** Summer **Light:** Sun/PartShade **Height:** 8" **Soil:** Moist Well Drained
Durable perennial that blooms purple flowers all summer. Low growing, makes great edger plant. Re-seeds and can be divided after first frost. Tolerates wet poor drained clay soil. Mulch in winter.

Turk's Cap

Malvaviscus arboreus drummondii **Color:** Red **Blooms:** Summer-Fall **Light:** Sun/PartShade **Height:** 2'-4' **Soil:** Well Drained
Bright green foliage great for lighting up shady areas. Blooms red hearts May to November. Attracts hummingbirds and butterflies. Will take any soil and any light.

Phlox 'John Fanick'

Phlox paniculata **Color:** Pink **Blooms:** Summer **Light:** Sun/PartShade **Height:** 36" **Soil:** Moist Well Drained
Named for the San Antonio nurseryman. Hardy perennial with light pink flower with darker pink throats. Blooms all summer. Compact growth habit, dark green foliage, Tolerates heat, drought, and powdery mildew.

Speak with a Garden Advisor for questions and availability.

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Phlox Thrift

Phlox subulata **Color:** Pink **Blooms:** Spring **Light:** Sun **Height:** 4" **Soil:** Well Drained
Hardiest and most dependable of the creeping phlox varieties, this is the old fashion light pink variety. Evergreen mat of spiny foliage. Great in rockeries, fronts of borders, as a sunny ground cover..

Yarrow 'Moonshine'

Achillea x **Color:** Yellow **Blooms:** Summer-Fall **Light:** Sun/PartShade **Height:** 18" **Soil:** Moist Well Drainage
Bright yellow flat-topped flowers, attractive lacy gray green foliage. Blooms all summer. Flowers good for cutting and/or drying.

Artemisia 'Powis Castle'

Artemisia **Color:** N/A **Blooms:** N/A **Light:** Sun **Height:** 36" **Soil:** Poor Dry
Artemisias are great perennials for dry areas. Silver grey fine cut foliage makes a great accent plant. Can be planted in containers or in flower beds and borders.

Aster, Hardy Blue

Aster oblongifolius **Color:** Blue **Blooms:** Fall **Light:** Sun **Height:** 36"-48" **Soil:** Well Drained
This Aster has been growing in the Dallas area for many years. Lovely blue flowers will grow two to four feet high. Blooms late summer and fall.

Dianthus 'Firewitch'

Dianthus x hybrida **Color:** Pink **Blooms:** Spring/Fall **Light:** Sun **Height:** 6" **Soil:** Moist Well Drainage
Fragrant pink flowers covering silvery blue foliage in spring, early summer and again in fall. Low, mat forming habit. Great for pots, flower borders, hanging over walls, or the rock garden. Pick off spent flowers.

Loosestrife 'Morden's Pink'

Lythrum salicaria **Color:** Rose **Blooms:** Summer **Light:** Sun/PartShade **Height:** 3'-4' **Soil:** Moist Well Drained
Hardy tall-growing plant that flowers on upright racemes all summer. Spent flower stalks must be removed for recurrent bloom. Very reliable plant for our area. Will tolerate very wet areas.

Mexican Bush Sage

Salvia leucantha **Color:** Purple & White **Blooms:** Fall **Light:** Sun/PartShade **Height:** 3'-4' **Soil:** Well Drained
Showy Salvia with purple and white bi-color blooms in late summer to fall. Blooms are soft with a velvety look. Tolerates drought. Cut old stems to the ground after first frost.

Skullcap

Scutellaria suffrutescens **Color:** Pink **Blooms:** Spring-Fall **Light:** Sun/PartShade **Height:** 8"-10" **Soil:** Well Drained
Hardy evergreen perennial with small leaves. It stays low, spreads wide and blooms heavily all summer. Great in rock gardens, borders and prairie lawns. Shear back to encourage re-bloom.

Betony

Stachys officinalis **Color:** Lavender **Blooms:** Spring **Light:** Sun/PartShade **Height:** 18"-24" **Soil:** Well Drained
Mat forming perennial great for beds with dappled shade. Beautiful foliage. Pink in color. Blooms in summer. Spikes with flowers in whorls around stem. Clump get larger as years go by.

Mexican Mint Marigold

Tagetes lucida **Color:** Gold **Blooms:** Fall **Light:** Sun **Height:** 24"-36" **Soil:** Moist Well Drained
Leaves have a pleasant anise like aroma. Flowers are borne on top of plant in fall. They are a bright golden yellow. Sometimes called Texas Tarragon, it is used in recipes that call for Tarragon.

Recommended Reading

1. [Perennial Gardens for Texas](#) by Julie Ryan
2. [Landscaping with Perennials](#) by Navas-Finley
3. [Perennial Gardening in Texas](#) by Alan Dean Franz
4. [Perennial Garden Design](#) by Michael King

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