



## 25 Shrubs for Shade

**Aucuba 'Gold Dust'** *Aucuba japonica* 'Gold Dust' - Evergreen. Very tolerant of full shade and dry soils. Excellent choice for those dark corners where little else will grow. Bold alternate leaves and large fruits. 'Gold Dust' has yellow speckled, lean, green leaves and red berries on female plants. Well drained soil. Grows to approximately 6 feet, or slightly taller, and 3-6 ft. wide.

**American Beauty Berry** *Callicarpa americana* - Deciduous. Attractive purple fruit clusters in fall. Small pinkish flowers mid to late summer. Attracts wildlife. Good in partial shade. Moist, well drained soil. Grows to 6 feet tall and wide.

**Aralia** *Fatsia japonica* – Evergreen, Large fan-shaped leaves add a tropical look to the landscape. Mature plants may bloom with a white flower cluster that is followed by black berries. Needs light protection during extreme cold. Moist, very well drained soil. Grows to 6-8 ft. tall and 4 ft. wide.

**Azaleas** *Azalea spp.* Semi-Evergreen. Flowering shrub for use as hedge, in borders or in massed planting for impressive display. Moist, well-drained acid soil. 'Encore' varieties will bloom sporadically through summer and fall. Varying heights and widths.

**Boxwood** *Buxus spp.* - Evergreen. Small dark green oval shaped leaves hold their color well in winter. New growth is a yellowish green. Foliage is very dense. Needs some protection from hot afternoon sun. Can be easily pruned and shaped. Assorted types and varieties available with varied growth habits.

**Chinese Fringe Flower** *Loropetalum chinensis* – Semi-Evergreen, Spectacular shrub with graceful arching branches. New growth is plum colored maturing to a deep burgundy. Hot pink blooms in spring. Chinese Fringe Flower 'Plum Delight' grows to 6 feet, 'Purple Diamond' grows to 3'-4' high and 4' wide. 'Purple Pixie' is most compact, growing 2-3 ft. Moist, well-drained soil.

**Gardenia** *Gardenia spp.* - Evergreen. Multiple species and cultivars, grown for their attractive foliage and showy white fragrant flowers that bloom from summer to fall. Must have moist, well-drained acid soil. Will tolerate some morning sun. Size varies with variety.

**Hydrangea** *Hydrangea spp.* Deciduous. Showy blooms start in spring and some last into autumn. Blooms are soil ph-specific (clear pink in alkaline soil and blue in acidic soil). Need protection from hot summer sun. Must have moist, well-drained acidic soil.

**Hydrangea, Oak Leaf** *Hydrangea quercifolia* - Deciduous. This hydrangea is native the southern states. It is one of the best varieties for North Texas. It provides multi-season interest with white conical flowers during summer and brilliantly purple colored foliage in the fall. Moist well-drained soil.

**Holly** *Illex spp.* - Evergreen. Dense, mostly dark green, shiny leaves with red berries in the winter. Many varieties with multiple habits and differing leaf shapes and spines, with some varieties fruiting better than others. Moist, well-drained soil, and many are drought tolerant when established.

**Indian Hawthorn** *Raphiolepis indica* - Evergreen. Large coarse leaves. Fragrant pink or white flowers in the spring.

**Lenten Rose** *Helleborus spp.* - Evergreen. 2005 Perennial Plant of the Year. Larger varieties can be used as a small shrub. Virtually problem-free. Excellent winter seasonal interest. Adaptable as groundcover and woodland garden floor where they are perfectly adapted to humusy soils and filtered shade. Adds interest to wild gardens with exquisite winter-time blooms that are ideal along pathways.

**Mahonia, Chinese** - Evergreen. Compact, upright growth with elongated compound leaves are somewhat fern-like and tropical-looking. Blooms in fall or early spring with yellow flowers to the top. Slightly spiny foliage is softer than either of its cousins. Moist, well-drained soil.

**Mahonia, Leatherleaf** *Mahonia bealei* – Evergreen. Holly-like, bluish leaves radiate stiffly from canes, giving a dramatic sculptured look. Yellow flowers in winter produce clumps of blue berries in spring, which birds love. Prune whole canes out to promote fullness. Moist, well-drained soil.

**Nandina** *Nandina domestica* - Evergreen. Attractive, dense compact evergreen shrub with bright yellow-green foliage. Displays brilliant burgundy foliage in fall and winter in sunlight. Fall clusters of bright red berries. Effective as ground cover, specimen plant or border. Needs well-drained soil.

**Pittosporum** *Pittosporum tobira* - Evergreen. Mounding, compactly branched glossy, gray-green leaves. Needs a protected site in North Texas. 'Wheeler's Dwarf' is smaller variety at 3'-4' tall and wide. There is also a variegated variety that brings welcome color to shade gardens. Best in moist, well-drained soil, but drought tolerant when established.

**Podocarpus Yew** *Podocarpus macrophyllus* - Evergreen. Attractive lawn or patio tree. Pyramidal form takes to shearing well to become an effective accent, screen or clipped hedge. Will also thrive in tubs or as a topiary. Slow grower kept to 15-20 feet tall, 6-8 feet wide or smaller when trimmed, larger with age.

**St. John's Wort, 'Henry's'** *Hypericum henrii* 'Henry's' - Evergreen. A soft, billowy arching shrub with mostly evergreen leaves and nice yellow flowers in early to mid summer. Not fussy about soil, and it will perform fairly well even in full shade. Moist, well-drained soil.

**Sweet Myrtle** *Myrtus communis* 'Compacta' - Evergreen. Compact, tightly branched shrub with creamy-white flowers and fragrant foliage when crushed. Extremely useful and dependable as a low, formal hedge and foundation planting. Plant in small container to enjoy indoors. Slow grower to 2-3 feet tall and wide. Drought tolerant.

**Sweet Olive** *Osmanthus fragrans* - Evergreen. Large shrub or small tree. Broad upright form is densely branched and covered with dark green finely toothed foliage. Tiny, butter yellow flower clusters have a delightful apricot-like fragrance. Outstanding selection for background screening and adding fragrance to the garden, especially near walkways, doorways and windows. Slow-growing.

**Viburnum 'Spring Bouquet'** *Viburnum tinus* 'Compactum' - Evergreen. A compact growing, handsome evergreen shrub. Bears small clusters of white flowers in spring, followed by dark blue to black berries mid summer. Attracts roosting birds.

**Yew, 'Hicks'** *Taxus x media* 'Hicksi' - Evergreen. Much more upright than the other yews. Takes very well to shearing. Needs very good drainage, plenty of water in hot weather, and afternoon shade. May be sheared into a formal column. Moist, well-drained soil.

**Yew, 'Emerald Spreader'** *Taxus cuspidata* 'Emerald Spreader' - Evergreen. A beautifully layered spreading form of Japanese Yew. Appreciates afternoon shade and must have good drainage and an organic, moist rich soil.

Speak with a Garden Advisor for questions and availability.

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