

# Hydrangea Varieties

## Big Leaf Hydrangea

*Hydrangea macrophylla*

The most popular and recognized hydrangea. Known for its showy mop-head or lace-cap flowers. Flowers may vary in form and color depending on cultivar and soil pH. Mature size will also depend on cultivar.

### Growth Requirements

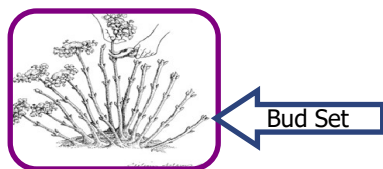
- ◆ Well-drained, rich, moist soil
- ◆ Sun — Part shade (consistent moisture is a requirement in full sun)
- ◆ Severe winters may damage flower buds. Heavy mulching in late fall can help prevent bud loss. Best planted in a sheltered area

### Pruning

This hydrangea primarily flowers on old wood (although newer varieties flower on both new and old), therefore time of pruning is important to ensure flowering.

This hydrangea does not require pruning but when trying to reduce the overall size, pruning should be done late summer – early fall (may still be flowering).

To ensure that you have some flower buds for the following year, do not cut down any farther than 6 bud sets from the base of each shoot.



### Altering Bloom Color

- ◆ Flower color may be altered by changing your soil pH.
- ◆ **Acidic soils** will generate **blue flowers**, where as **alkaline soils** will generate **pink flowers**. Products are available to help you adjust your pH.

## Mountain Hydrangea

*Hydrangea serrata*

One of the best hydrangeas for flowering in shade. Smaller, more compact and spreading hydrangea with lace-cap flowers, varying in color, depending on soil pH.

Excellent merlot fall color. ➡  
Grows to 3-4' Tall and Wide.



### Growth Requirements

- ◆ Moist soil with high organic matter
- ◆ Part shade — Full shade
- ◆ Sheltered area is necessary

### Pruning

Same as Big Leaf Hydrangea

## 'Annabelle' Smooth Hydrangea

*Hydrangea arborescens*

A native hydrangea with large, mop head type flowers, starting off lime green then maturing to creamy white. With frequent deadheading it will continue to bloom all summer. An extremely adaptable hydrangea.

Grow to 3'-5' tall and wide.

### Growth Requirements

- ◆ Well-drained, rich and moist soil
- ◆ Sun — Full shade (consistent moisture is a requirement in full sun)

### Pruning

This hydrangea blooms on both new and old wood, therefore can be pruned fall or spring. May be cut back to the ground to rejuvenate.

## Panicle Hydrangea

*Hydrangea paniculata*

An old-fashion hydrangea, with large, showy, cone-shaped flowers mid to late summer. Flowers begin light green, turning cream, and then gradually maturing to pink. Mature size will depend on cultivar. Although this plant is not deer resistant it tends to be a moderate browse risk.

### Growth Requirements

- ◆ Well-drained, rich soil, but can tolerate poor, dry sites.
- ◆ Sun – Part Sun

### Pruning

This hydrangea blooms on both new and old wood, therefore can be pruned fall or spring. May be cut back to the ground to rejuvenate.

## Oakleaf Hydrangea

*Hydrangea quercifolia*

As the name implies this hydrangea has beautiful 'oak leaf' shaped leaves that turn brilliant burgundy during the fall months. Large, creamy white-pink, cone-shaped flowers appear mid-summer. Mature size depends on cultivar.

### Growth Requirements

- ◆ Well-drained, moist, rich soil
- ◆ Part shade – full shade
- ◆ Severe winters may damage flower buds, heavy mulching in late fall may help prevent any bud loss. Planting in a sheltered area would be beneficial as well.

### Pruning

This hydrangea flowers on old wood therefore timing of pruning is important to ensure flowering. This hydrangea does not require pruning but when trying to reduce the overall size, pruning should be done late summer – early fall (may still be flowering).