

Deadheading Perennials

Perennials benefit greatly from "deadheading". Deadheading means to take off finished or dead blooms. This procedure has two purposes. One is to allow the plant to funnel its energy towards producing new flowers. The second is to keep the garden looking tidy. Many perennials will continue to bloom once they have been deadheaded.

To deadhead properly, use sharp pruners. Trim the stalk with the spent bloom on it to a spot beneath the height of the foliage. This will keep your garden looking attractive. If there are blossoms on the same stem that are not finished or have yet to bloom, trim the spent blossom to the spot above where the next flower is located. Following is a list of plants that can be deadheaded to encourage more blooms.

Anchusa	Coreopsis	Liatris
Armeria	Daisy, Shasta	Lupine
Baby's Breath	Daylily	Lychnis
Bachelor Button	Delphinium	Penstemon
Balloon Flower	Dianthus	Phlox, Garden
Bellflower	Foamflower	Pincushion
Bleeding Heart	Foxglove	Poker Plant
Butterfly Flower	Geum	Rudbeckia
Columbine	Hibiscus	Stokes' Aster
Coneflower	Hollyhock (B)	Sunflower
Coral Bells	Jupiter's Beard	Viola

(B)= Biennial

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