



What to Plant in July

Vegetables

Peppers

- Planting: Ready plants or seeds in seed trays.
- Care: Heat-resistant. Plant in sunny spots and require regular watering.

Eggplants

- Planting: Ready plants or seeds in seed trays.
- Care: Heat-resistant. Need plenty of light and regular watering.

Herbs and Aromatic Plants

Basil

- Planting: Ready plants or seeds.
- Care: Prefers sunny locations and requires regular watering, avoiding soil dryness.

Oregano

- Planting: Ready plants or seeds.
- Care: Heat-resistant. Prefers sunny spots and needs moderate watering.



Flowers and Ornamental Plants

Euphorbia milii (Crown of Thorns)

- Planting: Ready plants.
- Care: Heat and drought-resistant. Needs moderate watering and prefers direct sunlight.

Strelitzia nicolai

- Planting: Ready plants.
- Care: Ideal for sunny spots. Regular watering, especially during the summer months.

Lagerstroemia (Crape Myrtle)

- Planting: Ready plants.
- Care: Loves the sun and heat. Blooms all summer with regular watering.

Dichondra argentea 'Silver Falls'

- Planting: Ready plants.
- Care: Heat and drought-resistant. Ideal for hanging baskets, with moderate watering.

Vinca (Periwinkle)

- Planting: Ready plants or seeds.
- Care: Loves the sun and heat. Drought-resistant, with regular watering.

Daphne

- Planting: Ready plants.
- Care: Prefers shady or semi-shady spots. Requires regular watering, maintaining moist soil.

Tradescantia pallida (Purple Heart)

- Planting: Ready plants or cuttings.
- Care: Prefers semi-shady spots, heat-resistant. Regular watering, avoiding excessive moisture.

Alocasia cucullata

- Planting: Ready plants.
- Care: Prefers semi-shady spots, sensitive to direct sunlight. Regular watering, keeping the soil moist.



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Lawn Care: Tips for Proper Watering and Mowing During the Heat

Caring for your lawn during the summer, especially in hot months like July, requires special attention to keep it green, healthy, and weed-free.

Watering Frequency and Duration

- Frequency: Water your lawn 2-3 times a week. During periods of intense heat, additional watering may be necessary.
- Duration: Each watering session should last long enough for the water to penetrate at least 15 cm into the soil, encouraging deep roots.

Best Time to Water

- Morning Hours: The best time to water is early in the morning before the temperature rises. This reduces evaporation and allows the water to be absorbed better by the soil.
- Avoid Noon Watering: Avoid watering during midday to reduce water loss due to evaporation and prevent stress on the lawn.

Watering Methods

- Irrigation System: System or rotating sprinklers for even water distribution.
- Manual Watering: If using a hose, make sure to water all areas evenly.



Mowing Guidelines

Mowing Height

- Summer: Mow your lawn to a height of 5-7 cm. Taller grass helps shade the soil, reducing evaporation and protecting the roots from excessive heat.

Mowing Frequency

- Regular Maintenance: Mow the lawn every 1-2 weeks, depending on its growth rate. Avoid cutting more than 1/3 of the grass height at each mowing to reduce plant stress.

Mower Blades

- Sharp Blades: Ensure your mower blades are sharp to make clean cuts and avoid tearing the grass blades.

Ways to Avoid Weeds

Preventive Measures

- Thick Lawn: A dense and healthy lawn prevents weed growth because it leaves no space for weeds to develop.
- Proper Aeration: Aerate your lawn regularly to prevent soil compaction and help the roots breathe.

Using Herbicides

- Preventive Herbicides: Apply preventive herbicides in spring and fall to stop weeds from growing.
- Selective Herbicides: Use selective herbicides to combat existing weeds without harming the lawn.

Manual Weed Removal

- Manual Weeding: For isolated weeds, use hand tools to remove them from the root.
- Regular Inspection: Inspect your lawn regularly and remove weeds before they fully develop.



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Maintaining Lawn Health and Color

Fertilization

- Summer Fertilization: Use a fertilizer with low nitrogen content and high potassium content to enhance the lawn's resistance to heat and drought.
- Organic Fertilizers: Prefer organic fertilizers that release nutrients gradually.

Shading and Protection

- Shading Sensitive Areas: Use temporary shades or plant trees and shrubs to provide shade in sensitive lawn areas.
- Protection from Foot Traffic and Vehicle Movement: Limit traffic on the lawn during hot periods to reduce stress on the plants.



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Creating Shade and Protection: How to Protect Your Plants from Intense Sunlight and Heatwaves

During the summer, high temperatures and intense sunlight can stress your plants, causing growth and health problems. Creating shaded areas and protecting sensitive plants from the sun is essential for their preservation during heatwaves.

Creating Shaded Areas

Using Shades

Selecting Shades:

- Plastic Shade Nets: Use plastic shade nets that provide partial shading (50-70%). These nets are lightweight and easy to use, ideal for gardens and balconies.
- Hemp or Linen Shades: Offer natural shading and allow good air circulation.

Placing Shades:

- Support: Use wooden or metal posts to support the shades above the plants.
- Height Adjustment: Place the shades at a height that allows good air circulation and doesn't hinder plant growth.



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Natural Shading.

Planting Trees and Shrubs:

- Choosing Plants: Choose trees and shrubs with dense foliage that provide natural shade, such as olive trees, oleanders, and acacias.
- Strategic Planting: Plant trees and shrubs in locations that will provide shade during the hottest parts of the day.

Climbing Plants:

- Choosing Climbing Plants: Opt for plants like ivy (*Hedera helix*) or bougainvillea to climb pergolas and railings.
- Support: Use pergolas, walls, and fences to support the climbing plants, creating shaded areas.



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Protecting Sensitive Plants from Sunlight and Heatwaves

Protective Covers

Reflective Covers:

- Material: Use reflective fabrics or aluminum sheets to reduce the intensity of sunlight reaching the plants.
- Placement: Cover the plants during the hottest hours of the day and remove the covers in the morning and evening to allow direct sunlight.

Temporary Caps:

- Using Plastic Caps: Place transparent or white plastic caps over the plants to protect them from the sun without blocking air circulation.
- Ventilation: Make sure to leave openings for ventilation to avoid overheating.



Watering and Humidity

Proper Watering:

- Frequency: Water plants early in the morning or late in the afternoon to reduce evaporation and maintain soil moisture.
- Depth of Watering: Water deeply to encourage roots to grow deeper, which helps plants withstand heat.

Increasing Atmospheric Humidity:

- Spraying Leaves: Spray plant leaves with water to increase atmospheric humidity around them and reduce temperature.
- Humidifiers: Use humidifiers or place water containers near the plants to increase air humidity.



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Additional Tips for Protecting Plants

- **Mulch:** Apply a layer of mulch around the base of the plants to retain soil moisture and reduce evaporation.
- **Minimize Movement:** Limit movement around sensitive plants during heatwaves to reduce stress.
- **Cleanliness:** Remove fallen leaves and other organic debris to reduce the risk of disease development.



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Pruning and grooming plants are essential processes for maintaining the health and beauty of summer plants and shrubs. With the right techniques, you can keep your plants healthy, groomed, and flourishing.

Seasonal Pruning

Growth Pruning:

- Summer: During summer, do light pruning to maintain the plant's shape and remove any damaged or diseased branches.
- After Flowering: Prune shrubs that have finished flowering to encourage new growth.

Shaping Pruning:

- Shape and Size: Prune plants to maintain the desired shape and size, avoiding excessive growth that can stress the plants.
- Balance: Prune symmetrically to maintain the plant's balance and encourage even growth.

Pruning and Grooming:
Techniques for Summer
Plants and Shrubs



Special Pruning Techniques

Proactive Pruning:

- Removing Diseased Branches: Immediately remove diseased or damaged branches to prevent the spread of diseases and pests.
- Removing Weak Shoots: Eliminate weak shoots that don't contribute to the plant's growth.

Thinning:

- Improving Air Circulation: Remove some internal branches to improve air circulation within the plant, reducing the risk of fungal infections.
- Light and Photosynthesis: Open the plant's interior to allow light to penetrate all parts, enhancing photosynthesis.

Cutting Above Buds:

- Pruning Above Buds: Cut slightly above a healthy bud to encourage the growth of new shoots.
- Angle of Cutting: Cut at an angle to prevent water from accumulating on the cut, reducing the risk of rot.



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How to Keep Your Plants Groomed and Healthy

Regular Grooming

Removing Dead Flowers:

- Deadheading: Remove dead flowers to encourage continuous blooming and keep plants groomed.
- Plant Energy: Removing dead flowers helps the plant direct its energy towards growing new flowers and leaves.

Cleaning Foliage:

- Removing Dead Leaves: Clean dead or damaged leaves to maintain the plant's health and appearance.
- Disease Prevention: Removing dead foliage reduces the risk of disease and pest development.



Soil Care and Nutrition

Fertilization:

- Summer Fertilization: Use balanced fertilizers to ensure that plants receive all the necessary nutrients.
- Organic Fertilizers: Prefer organic fertilizers for gradual nutrient release and soil structure improvement.

Mulch:

- Moisture Retention: Apply mulch around plants to retain soil moisture and reduce evaporation.
- Weed Reduction: Mulch also helps reduce weed growth, keeping the garden cleaner and more groomed.



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Disease Prevention and Treatment

Regular Inspection:

- Plant Check: Regularly check plants for signs of disease or pests.
- Immediate Action: If problems are detected, take immediate action to address them using natural or chemical remedies as needed.

Garden Hygiene:

- Tool Cleanliness: Keep pruning tools clean and disinfected to prevent disease transmission.
- Removal of Debris: Remove pruning debris and dead plant material from the garden to reduce the risk of disease.



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Creating a small herb garden on your balcony can provide fresh herbs for cooking and a beautiful green environment for relaxation. Here are some ideas and tips to start your herb garden on the balcony.

Plant Selection and Layout

Herb Selection:

- **Basil:** Heat-resistant, ideal for summer cultivation.
- **Oregano:** Loves the sun and is heat-resistant.
- **Rosemary:** A hardy plant that requires minimal care.
- **Mint:** Prefers partial shade and regular moisture.
- **Thyme:** Prefers sunny spots and is drought-resistant.

Plant Layout:

- **Vertical Gardening:** Use shelves, vertical gardens, or hanging pots to save space.
- **Pots and Planters:** Choose pots of different sizes and shapes to create visual interest.

How to Create a Small Herb Garden on Your Balcony



Preparation and Care

Soil Preparation:

- **Soil Mix:** Use high-quality soil mix enriched with organic materials.
- **Drainage:** Ensure pots have drainage holes to avoid excessive moisture.

Watering and Fertilization:

- **Proper Watering:** Water herbs early in the morning or late in the afternoon to reduce evaporation.
- **Fertilization:** Use organic fertilizers or compost to boost plant growth.

Shading and Protection:

- **Shading:** Use shades or place pots in partial shade to protect plants from intense sunlight.
- **Wind Protection:** Place pots in positions sheltered from the wind.



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Summer Garden Decoration Ideas

Decorating your garden during the summer can transform your outdoor space into a beautiful and pleasant environment. Here are some ideas and tips for decorating your garden in the summer.

Colors and Materials

Bright Colors:

- **Pots and Planters:** Choose pots in bright and vibrant colors to add a cheerful touch to your garden.
- **Cushions and Throws:** Add colorful cushions and throws to your outdoor chairs and sofas.

Natural Materials:

- **Wood and Bamboo:** Use furniture made of wood and bamboo to create a natural and warm atmosphere.
- **Stones and Pebbles:** Decorate with stones and pebbles to add texture and interest to your garden.



Lighting

Lanterns and Candles:

- **Hanging Lanterns:** Hang lanterns in trees or pergolas to create a magical atmosphere at night.
- **Candles and String Lights:** Place candles and string lights on tables and paths for soft and warm lighting.

LED Lighting:

- **Solar Lights:** Use solar lights for energy savings and environmental friendliness.
- **Floor Lights:** Add floor lights to highlight garden paths and corners.



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Structures and Furniture

Pergolas and Gazebos:

- **Pergolas:** Install pergolas for shade and climbing plants, creating beautiful shaded corners.
- **Gazebos:** Add gazebos for sun and rain protection, offering a comfortable space for relaxation.

Seating Areas and Recreation Spaces:

- **Outdoor Furniture:** Choose durable and comfortable outdoor furniture to create seating and dining areas.
- **Hammocks and Swings:** Add hammocks and swings for a relaxing recreation area.



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Garden and Planting

Flowering Plants:

- **Seasonal Flowers:** Plant summer flowers like geraniums, petunias, and bougainvillea to add color and beauty.
- **Plant Combinations:** Create compositions with plants of various heights, colors, and textures for visual interest.

Plants in Pots:

- **Mobility:** Use pots for plants that need mobility, allowing you to change the garden layout according to needs.
- **Decoration:** Choose pots in various designs and colors to add a decorative touch.



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