



CHOOSING THE RIGHT PLANT FOR THE RIGHT PLACE

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Here are some general principles that will help you choose plants that will work well in your garden. If you have questions, ask your nurseryman or a Master Gardener volunteer.

1. **Climate:** Plants that are acclimated to local heat and cold patterns grow better. Tender tropical need more care and often suffer in our cold, dark winters.
2. **Exposure:** Many plant labels describe the best locations and optimum growing conditions. Look for symbols indicating optimum growing conditions:
 - *Full sun
 - *Partial sun
 - *Partial shade
 - *Full shade
3. **Soil Needs:** A few plants have special soil requirements, such as alkaline or acidic, wet or dry.
4. **Water Needs:** Group plants with similar water needs together so they are easier to care for and are healthier. Plant labels usually indicate whether the plant is:
 - *No water
 - *Moderate water
 - *Regular-Ample water
5. **Size:** Plants whose mature size matches available space are healthier and easier to care for. This is critical in small spaces and container gardens.
6. **Problem Plants:** Avoid species or varieties prone to local pest and disease problems. Choose plants with known disease and pest resistance. Your nursery staff can help.