

A garden guide

BLUE & YELLOW BORDER GARDEN

For creating the perfect garden



To design a Property Border Line Garden for your country cottage, we'll focus on creating a natural, inviting border that enhances the charm of your cottage while ensuring privacy and adding aesthetic appeal. This garden will be tailored to blend harmoniously with the rural setting, incorporating a mix of flowering shrubs, perennials, and decorative elements suitable for lining property boundaries.

Design Objectives

- Privacy:** Utilize taller plants and shrubs to create a natural screen.
- Aesthetic Appeal:** Choose plants that bloom in succession for year-round visual interest.
- Low Maintenance:** Select hardy plants suited to your local climate that require minimal upkeep.

Garden Layout and Planting Plan

Key Features

- Hedging:** For a structured yet natural border.
- Mixed Flowering Borders:** For color and variety.
- Pathway Along the Border:** For easy access and maintenance.

Front Row (Closest to the Pathway)

Moonbeam Coreopsis (*Coreopsis verticillata* 'Moonbeam'): Pale yellow flowers that bloom continuously throughout the summer, located along the edges of the wood chip pathway, providing a soft border. Wiki

Catmint (*Nepeta* spp.): Lavender-blue flowers, planted in clusters along the pathway, offering a cascading, relaxed look. Wiki

Husker Red Beard Tongue (*Penstemon digitalis* 'Husker Red'): Featuring white flowers atop deep red foliage, placed intermittently along the pathway to add height and color contrast.

Middle Row



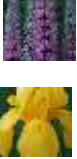


Dark Knight Bluebeard (*Caryopteris x clandonensis* 'Dark Knight'): Deep blue flowers located in the middle sections of the planting beds, providing a striking visual contrast against the lighter foliage around them. Wiki

Coronation Gold Yarrow (*Achillea* 'Coronation Gold'): Golden yellow flowers on tall stems, placed in the middle to back sections of the garden beds, visible for their bright color and height.

Back Row (Near the Fences and Taller Structures)

Fat Albert Blue Spruce (*Picea pungens* 'Fat Albert'): A compact, cone-shaped evergreen, providing a year-round blue hue and structural height, positioned towards

Plant list

	PLANT NAME	TYPE	HEIGHT	SPREAD	SEASON	LIGHT	MOISTURE	HARDINESS	SOIL PH
	Digitalis xmerttonensis	perennial	0.5-1 metre, 3-4 feet	0.1-0.5 metre 1-2 feet	Summer	full sun/ partial shade /full shade	moist but well-drained	very hardy, USDA 4-9	acid / alkaline / neutral
	Nepeta grandiflora Dawn to Dusk'	perennial	0.5-1 metre, 2.5 feet	0.5-1 metre, 2.5 feet	Summer	full sun / partial shade / full shade	moist but well-drained	very hardy, USDA 9-11	alkaline / neutral
	Scabiosa atropurpurea 'Fata Morgana'	perennial	0.5-1 metre, 3 feet	0.1-0.5 metre, 1-2 feet	Summer	full sun / partial shade / full shade	well-drained	very hardy, USDA 2-11	acid / alkaline / neutral
	Daucus carota 'Dara	perennial	0.5-1 metre, 3 feet	0.1-0.5 metre, 3 feet	Summer	full sun	moist but well-drained	very hardy, USDA 5-9	acid / alkaline / neutral
	Knautia macedonica	perennial	0.5-1 metre, 1.5-2 feet	0.1-0.5 metre, 1.5-2 feet	Summer	full sun	well-drained	half hardy, USDA 6-10	alkaline / neutral
	Eschscholzia californica 'Ivory Castle'	perennial	0.1-0.5 metre, 1-1.5 feet	0.1-0.5 metre, 1-1.5 feet	Summer	full sun	well-drained	very hardy, USDA 4-9	acid / alkaline / neutral

TIPS FOR INSTALLING YOUR GARDEN

BEFORE YOU BEGIN

Preparation is the key to creating a garden that will offer a lifetime of pleasure. Before you head to the nursery, review all garden plan materials. Ask yourself the following questions:

Do I have a suitable spot for this plan?

The layout diagram shows the dimensions for the plan. In general, you can enlarge or reduce the size of the garden by adding or eliminating plants, although the character of the garden may change if you alter the size dramatically.

Do I have the right growing conditions?

Check the plant list to see if the plan will do best in sun, part shade, or full shade. Be sure that the plants are suited to your USDA Zone.

Do I need to amend my soil?

Most plants thrive in moist, but well-drained soil. If you have soil with lots of sand or clay, amend it liberally with lots of organic matter, such as compost.

Is my soil's pH and fertility okay?

If you're unsure, inquire about testing at your county's extension service office. Follow the recommendations that come with your test results. If you need to correct the soil's pH (how acid or alkaline the soil is) or fertility,

CREATE THE BED

To lay out your bed, use a garden hose to mark

the outline. (Or sprinkle flour along the hose for a more temporary mark.) Using a sharp spade, dig along the marked line to set the edge of your bed. If the spot is currently covered by lawn, remove the sod using a straight-edged shovel or sod cutter. To make this easier, wet the area thoroughly, then use the shovel to cut the lawn into strips that are the width of the shovel and about 3 feet long. (Sharpen the edge of your shovel frequently with a file.) Use the shovel to pry up and roll back the strips of sod. Once the sod is removed, loosen the underlying soil with a shovel or a power tiller.

PLANTING

If you have all of your plants on hand, keep them in their pots and set them out on the planting bed. This will give you a preview of how the bed will look, and allow you to make adjustments before digging any holes.

When you are satisfied with the placement, plant your garden from largest to smallest container (usually trees first, then shrubs, perennials, and finally annuals).

Tree-Planting Tips: Dig a hole that's twice as wide as the pot or root ball but no deeper. If the tree is potted, loosen the soil slightly around the roots, then place the tree into the planting hole. For balled-and-burlapped trees, loosen the burlap after the tree is in the hole. Cut away as much of the burlap as possible. When the tree is in place and straight, fill the hole one-third with soil, tap firmly to make good contact between roots and soil, then water. Repeat twice more until the hole is filled. Water the tree thoroughly by letting a hose run slowly for 30 minutes.

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Regardless of how you prepare your bed, use this opportunity to mix in organic matter (such as compost, peat moss, or rotted manure) and loosen the soil at least 6 inches deep. Don't mix in fertilizer unless your soil test shows a need; in general, excessive amounts of fertilizer will do more harm than good.

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Shrub-Planting Tips: Plant shrubs in a hole that's about twice the diameter of the root ball. The top of the root ball should be slightly above the surrounding soil level. Backfill with garden soil, taping firmly to ensure a contact between soil and roots. Water immediately by slowly running a hose at the shrub's base for about 20 minutes.

Perennial- and Annual-Planting Tips: Set these plants in soil at the same level they were growing in the pot. Firm the soil around each plant with your hands, then water thoroughly.

FINISHING TOUCHES

Edging: Beds and borders are easier to maintain if they're edged to keep surrounding grass or weeds from growing in. Choose plastic, metal, stone, or brick—whatever you prefer. If you have lawn around your bed, consider adding a 6- to 12 inch-wide