



Unique Garden Centre

POND BORDER PLANTS

So you've installed a pond in your yard and now you are trying to pick plants to accent the area and make it look more natural. Here are some helpful hints for both the experts and the design challenged.

If you are still in the process of installing the pond, take a moment to think about the rocks you are using around the edge and place them carefully, taking into consideration their fundamental purpose is to secure the pond and hide building materials such as the liner from view.

The rocks have a secondary purpose and that is to provide structure to the area adjacent to the pond for the pond border plants. It is not that this is hard to do, well at least not any harder, it just requires some thought in the placement. After placing the rocks around the edge of the pond to hide the liner, add some rocks to the surrounding area to blend the landscape. The character of the rocks themselves will help indicate where to place them. Be sure to allow room for plants in between and to cover the bases of the rocks to make them look natural.

Once the rocks are placed and new soil added, you are ready to pick plants. How many plants you need will depend on what varieties you choose and how much space is left after placing the rocks. Here are some plants that look wonderful beside a pond. Keep to lower plants on the viewing side and taller plants along the rear side.

Plants for the front of an informal pond	Plants for the back of an informal pond
Armeria maritime (Sea Thrift)	Achillea millefolium 'Moonshine'
Bergenia cordifolia (Elephant ears)	Karl Forester Grass
Campanula White or Blue Clips	Dicentra exima 'Luxuriant'
Coreopsis 'Zagreb'	Hemerocallis (Daylily)
Dwarf Hosta	Roses
Gentian septemfida 'Lagodechiana'	German Iris
Geranium x 'Johnson's Blue'	Dwarf spruce or pine
Gypsophila repens (Creeping Baby's Breath)	Heliopsis (False Sunflower)
Iberis empervirens (Candytuft)	Heuchera (Coral Bells)
Linum perenne (Flax)	Japanese Iris
Phlox douglasii (Creeping Phlox)	Paeonia lactiflora
Sedum	Campanula persicifolia (Peachleaf Bellflower)
Sempervivum (Hen and Chicks)	Salvia x superba 'Blue Queen'

This is just a sample of some good perennial (and some small shrubs) choices for the pond area. Experimenting and expanding on the list is what really makes your pond beds work for you. Then all that is left is for you to sit back and enjoy.