



## Grass Information

### Perennial Grasses for Part Shade

- Sedge Grass (Carex)
- Northern Sea Oats (Chasmanthium)
- Tufted Hair Grass (Deschampsia)
- Japanese Forest Grass (Hakonechloa)
- Moor Grass (Sesleria)
- Prairie Dropseed (Sporobolus)

### Perennial Grasses for Hot Dry Sites

- Big Bluestem (Andropogon)
- Feather Reed Grass (Calamagrostis)
- Blue Fescue (Festuca)
- Pink Muhly Grass (Muhlenbergia)
- Switch Grass (Panicum)
- Little Blue Stem (Schizachyrium)
- Prairie Dropseed (Sporobolus)

### Moisture Lovers

- Feather Reed Grass (Calamagrostis)
- Sedge Grass (Carex)
- Northern Sea Oats (Chasmanthium)
- Japanese Forest Grass (Hakonechloa)
- Maiden, Silver, Flame Grass (Miscanthus)
- Switch Grass (Panicum)
- Fountain Grass (Pennisetum)
- Ribbon Grass (Phalaris)
- Hardy Pampas Grass (Saccharum)
- Moor Grass (Sesleria)

### Fall Color

- Big Bluestem (Andropogon)
- Flame Grass (Miscanthus 'Purpurascens')
- Switch Grass (Panicum 'Cheyenne Sky')
- Little Bluestem (Schizachyrium)

### Short Grasses

- Tufted Hair Grass (Deschampsia)
- Japanese Forest Grass (Hakonechloa)
- Japanese Blood Grass (Imperata)
- Fountain Grass (Pennisetum)
- Moor Grass (Sesleria)
- Prairie Dropseed (Sporobolus)

### Salt Tolerant

- Feather Reed Grass (Calamagrostis)
- Northern Sea Oats (Chasmanthium)
- Blue Fescue (Festuca)
- Maiden, Silver, Flame Grass (Miscanthus)
- Switch Grass (Panicum)
- Hardy Pampas Grass (Saccharum)
- Prairie Dropseed (Sporobolus)

### Tolerates Seasonal Changes (From Flood to Drought)

- Feather Reed Grass (Calamagrostis)
- Switch Grass (Panicum)
- Little Bluestem (Schizachyrium)
- Moor Grass (Sesleria)
- Prairie Dropseed (Sporobolus)



## Care of Grasses

### Soil Preparation

1. Remove any lawn grass and weeds in the planting area first.
2. Add well-aged compost or Bumper Crop Soil Builder to the planting area. Mix it in well with the existing soil.
3. Dig the hole just deep enough that the crown of the grass is even with the soil.
4. Add a handful of a starting fertilizer such as Espoma Bio-tone to the bottom of the hole before inserting the plant.
5. Best time to plant perennial grass is in the spring. It's best wait until late April or early May. Day time temperatures should be in the 60F+ and nighttime temperatures should be 45F+ for two weeks in order for the soil to warm up.
6. If you plant early and then a frost or freeze is called for, cover the newly planted grass with a towel or sheet overnight.

### Fertilization

1. Perennial grasses typically don't need much fertilizer, but adding a basic fertilizer to all your perennial beds is a good idea in early spring.
2. After cleaning up your perennial beds in the spring, use a handheld grass seed spreader to evenly disperse either granular 10-10-10 fertilizer or granular 12-12-12 fertilizer.
3. In our area, it's best to apply the fertilizer in mid-April.
4. It's also a good idea to add well-aged compost or Bumper Crop Soil Builder to perennial beds. This can be done in addition to applying a granular fertilizer. In mid-April, light fluff compost into the soil around your perennial plants. Then apply a granular fertilizer on top.

### Watering

1. Newly planted perennial grass should be watered at minimum, 4 times per week, from planting till late September. If the newly planted grass is in full sun and the weather is excessively hot, it may need to be watered every other day.
2. During the second season, water the perennial grass 2-3 times per week.
3. Perennial grass should be well established by the third season. But keep in mind that if it's extremely hot and dry out, watering a couple times of week will help it survive and thrive.

### Mulching

1. We highly recommend mulching all perennials with hardwood mulch. It's the best for controlling weeds and conserving moisture. Rocks don't prevent weeds, nor do they conserve moisture.
2. Don't mulch too close to the crown of the plant. There should be a 1-2 inch gap between the mulch and the plant.

### Pruning

1. Many species of perennial grass provide winter interest to your landscape, so we don't recommend pruning most grass until early spring. Mid to late March is a good time to cut back.
2. For mature clumps, tie a rope or twine around grass blades for easier clean up.
3. Prune your grass down to within 6 inches of the base of the clump. You can prune short grasses a little lower.