50 Best Shade Plants

Scientific Name	Common Name	Full Sun	Part Shade	Full Shade	Moist Wet, Dry, Acid, Rich	<12”	12-24”	24-36”	>36”	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	1	2	Butterfly, Hummingbird, Fragrant, Summer Dormant, Vine, GC, Cut Flower	Notes
Adenophora	Ladybells	X	X		Drain				2-3’			5	6	7									Self seeds
Ajuga	Bugle Weed	X	X	X	All	6-8					4	5										H, G	
Alchemilla	Lady’s Mantle	X	X		All		18-24						6									G	
Anemone sylvestri	Snowdrop Anemone		X		M		15-20				4	5										D	
Anemone x hybrid	Japanese Anemone	X	X		M				3’							9	10					C	
Arisaema	Jack-in-the-Pulpit		X	X	M		18-24				4	5	6										Woods
Arum	Italian Arum		X		R		12-18					5										D	Late Foliage
Aruncus	Goatsbeard	X	X	X	M, R	10-12		24-36					6	7								C	
Asarum	Ginger		X	X	R	4-6																G	Leaf texture
Astilbe	False Spirea	X	X	X		10-12	15-20						6	7	8							C	
Astilbe	False Spirea	X	X	X				24-36	4’						8	9						B, C	
Bergenia	Pigsqueak	X	X	X			12-18				4	5										G	No heat
Brunnera	Siberian Bugloss		X	X	M		12-20				4	5											Woods
Cimicifuga	Snakeroot		X	X	M, R			24-30	5-6’						8	9	10					B, F, C	Pods
Convallaria	Lily-of-the-Valley		X	X	R	6-8						5										F, G, C	

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Corydallis	Corydalis		X	X	M	10-12						5	6	7	8								
Dicentra exima	Bleeding Heart		X	X	M	10-12	12-18					5	6	7	8	9						H, C	Woods
Dicentra spectabill	Bleeding Heart		X	X	M		20-24					5	6									H, C	
Digitalis	Foxglove	X	X	X					4’				6									H	Woods, self-sow
Doronicum	Leopardsbane	X	X	x	Sand		15-20				4	5	6									D	
Epimedium	Barrenwort		X	X	M, D, R	10-12						5	6										Woods
Galium	Sweet Woodruff	X	X	X	M	6-10						5										B, F, C	
Geranium	Cranesbill	X	X				12-24						6	7	8	9							
Helleborus	Lenton Rose		X	X	M, R		12-20			3	4	5							2			C	Tolerates Dry
Heuchera	Coral Bells	X	X		M		18-24						6	7	8	9						H, C	
Hosta	Hosta	X	X	X	D	9-12	12-24	24-36					6	7	8	9						H, F, C	
Iris cristata	Crested Iris	X	X	X	M	6-8					4	5											
Lamium	Dead Nettle		X	X	Drain	4-8						5	6	7								G	
Ligularia	Golden Ray		X	X	M, R				3-4’					7	8								
Liriope	Lily Turf		X	X	A		18-24								8	9	10						
Mertensia	Virginia Bluebells	X	X	X	M, R		18-24					5											

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Omphaloides	Blue-eyed Mary		X			5-10						5											
Pachysandra	Japanese Spurge		X	X	M, A	8-10					4	5	6									G	Evergreen
Peltiphyllum	Umbrella Plant		X						4’		4												
Phlox divaricata	Woodland Phlox		X	X	M	10-12					4	5										F, G	Woods
Podophyllum	Mayapple		X	X	M		15-18				4												Woods
Polemonium	Jacob’s Ladder	X	X		M		20-24					5	6										Woods, Edge
Polygonatum	Solomon’s Seal		X	X	M, A		20-24				4	5	6										Colony
Primula	Primrose	X	X		M	6-12	18-24					5	6										
Prunella	Prunella		X	X	M	10-12								7								G	Woods
Pulmonaria	Lungwort		X	X		10-12					4	5											
Rodgersia	Rodgersia	X	X	X	W, R				3-4’				6	7									
Sanguinaria	Bloodroot		X	X	M	4-6					4	5											Native, humus
Smilacina	False Solomon’s Seal		X	X	R				2-3’			5	6										Colony
Stylophorum	Golden Poppy		X	X	M		12-18				4	5	6										Woods, Reseeds

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Thalictrum	Meadow Rue	X	X	X	M				3-4’			5	6	7								B	
Tiarella	Foam Flower		X	X	M	8-10						5	6									G	
Tricyrtis	Japanese Toad-Lily		X	X	A		18-24	24-30								9	10					H	Woods
Trollius	Globeflower	X	X	X	M				2-3’				6	7									Meadow
Uvularia	Merrybells		X	X	R		12-20					5											Woods
Vinca Minor	Periwinkle		X	X	Drain	8-10					4	5										G	Evergreen
Viola	Violet	X	X	X	M	8-10					4	5											