

## Deadheading to Prolong Bloom

Promote new flowers and make your garden look better by deadheading — the process of removing spent flower blossoms. You can snip, prune, pinch, cut or use any means you want to remove the old, dead blooms. It is best to remove spent blooms shortly after the flower has died.

Plants have flowers to make seeds. Once seeds have been produced, the plant has satisfied it's need to reproduce and flower production stops. By deadheading, you trick the plant into trying to make seed by making more flowers.

Not all plants will produce more flowers after deadheading. Many perennial plants and flowering shrubs are pre-programmed to bloom only once. However, deadheading will improve the appearance, and often the vigor, of these plants.



*Provided by*

[wimastergardener.org](http://wimastergardener.org)



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## Additional Resources

### Deadheading

- *Deadheading* by Penn State Extension at <http://extension.psu.edu/plants/master-gardener/counties/chester/how-to-gardening-brochures/deadheading>
- *Remove spent blossoms for more flowers* by Oregon State Univeristy Extension Service at <http://extension.oregonstate.edu/gardening/remove-spent-blossoms-more-flowers>

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