

Ornamental Grasses

This group of plants, which includes true grasses and close relatives such as rushes and sedges, adds variety to many types of gardens. Grasses look good against a dark background and placed to catch morning or evening light. They add a significant vertical presence to the winter landscape and are commonly left standing until spring.

Grasses come in many heights, colors, textures and have varying water requirements. Some grasses grow best under warm temperatures (warm season) and others in cooler temperatures (cool season). Consult books or experts to determine the best species for your conditions and climate.



Plant ornamental grasses in the spring for best results. Most grasses benefit from mulching and many from cutting back, usually just before new growth begins in the spring.

Provided by
wimastergardener.org



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Additional Resources

Ornamental Grasses

- Articles on MG website on various species or cultivars. Type “grass” into search box at <http://wimastergardener.org/> or <http://wimastergardener.org/articles/>
- *Ornamental Grasses*, a University of Illinois website at www.urbanext.uiuc.edu/grasses/
- *Ornamental Grasses*, Ohio State Fact Sheet at <http://ohioline.osu.edu/hyg-fact/1000/1238.html>
- *Ornamental Grasses for Minnesota*, University of Minnesota Extension fact sheet at <http://www.extension.umn.edu/garden/yard-garden/landscaping/ornamental-grasses-for-minnesota/index.html>

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