



# Plants for Pools

**Everyone wants softer plants around while enjoying the pool and less ‘plant litter’ to have to fish out of the water. Many of these plants’ flowers and leaves shed little, are sun and heat tolerant, and can handle the occasional splash.**

A few suggestions:

- Go for your style. The movement of grasses soften open spaces, and can make one feel ‘cooler’. Bold, exaggerated changes in foliage texture can help to create that tropical oasis you may be looking for!
- For easier maintenance, pay attention to well-draining soil to lessen chemical build-up from splashes, and avoid those plants that drop leaves or spent flowers too close to the water’s edge. Knowing the prevailing wind can help.
- Choose for interest throughout the summer swimming season. If your pool is enjoyed during the winter and you’ve chosen tropical color, plan to overwinter these indoors, and have other color and texture that can take their place.
- Try the toughest, evergreen shrubs or vines for any needed pool equipment screening. Nandinas and hollies can be ideal shrubs, and vines such as crossvine cover quickly and bloom profusely to bring color.
- If you are short on space, try containers to get color and height nearer to your guests. Hanging baskets on shepherd’s hooks can be another solution for closer color.
- Finally, watch products that may stain concrete surfaces, such as some fertilizers or iron supplements.

## ANNUALS

Bougainvillea  
Coleus- sun or shade varieties  
Copperleaf– *Acalypha* spp.  
Cosmos– *Cosmos bipinnatus*  
Fan Flower– *Scaevola aemula*  
Gazania– *Gazania* spp.  
Gomphrena– *Gomphrena* spp.  
Herbs– cool & warm season  
Lantana– *Lantana* spp.  
Pansies  
Penta– *Pentas* spp.  
Salvia- *Salvia coccinea* & *S. elegans*  
Violas  
Wallflower– *Erysimum*

## PERENNIALS

Amaryllis—*Amaryllis* spp.  
Artemesia- *Artemesia* spp.  
Autumn Sage– *Salvia greggii* & cultivars  
Black-Eyed Susan- *Rudbeckia*  
Blackfoot Daisy– *Melampodium leucanthum*  
Blue Mist Flower– *Conoclinium greggii*  
Cannas– *Canna* spp.  
Chrysanthemum– *Chrysanthemum* spp.  
Coneflower - *Echinacea* spp.  
Coreopsis– *Coreopsis* spp.  
Cuphea– *Cuphea* spp.  
Datura– *Datura* spp.  
Daylilies- *Hemerocallis*  
Dusty Miller– *Senecio cineraria*  
Esperanza– *Tecoma stans*  
Flame Acanthus– *Acanthus wrightii*

*See reverse for additional plants, including some for shade.*

## **PERENNIALS- (continued)**

Helianthus– *Helianthus* spp.  
Horsetail Reed - *Equisetum hymale*  
Lamb's Ear- *Stachys byzantina*  
Lantana- *Lantana* spp.  
Mexican Bush Sage- *Salvia leucantha*  
Mexican Petunia– *Ruellia* spp.  
Poker Plant- *Kniphofia*  
Rosemary- *Rosmarinus*  
Russian Sage- *Perovskia*  
Umbrella Plant- *Cyperus alternifolius*  
Yarrow– *Achillea* spp.

## **GRASSES**

Mexican Feather Grass– *Nasella tenuissima*  
Pink Muhly– *Muhlenbergia capillaris*  
Lindheimer Muhly– *Muhlenbergia lindheimerii*

## **SHRUBS**

Abelia– multiple varieties  
Bamboo– *Phyllostachys*  
Bay Laurel - *Laurus nobilis*  
Boxwood– *Buxus* spp.  
Cleyera - *Ternstroemia gymnothera*  
Eleagnus– *Eleagnus angustifolia*  
Grey Cotoneaster- *Cotoneaster glaucophylla*  
Hollies– multiple species  
Hibiscus– multiple varieties  
Indian Hawthorne- *Raphiolepis* spp.  
Junipers– *Juniperus* spp.  
Nandina- multiple varieties  
Oleander– *Nerium* spp.  
Red Yucca - *Hesperaloe parviflora*  
St. Johns Wort - *Hypericum* spp.  
Texas Sage– *Leucophyllum* spp.  
Yucca– multiple species & varieties

## **TREES**

Banana– *Musa* spp.  
Redbud– *Cercis* spp.  
Sabal Palm– *Sabal minor*  
Texas Mountain Laurel– *Sophora secundiflora*  
Wax Myrtle - *Myrica cerifera*  
Windmill Palm- *Trachycarpus fortunei*  
Yaupon Holly - *Ilex vomitoria*

## **GROUND COVERS**

Asian Jasmine– *Trachelospermum asiaticum*  
Hibiscus- hardy & tropical varieties  
Liriope- multiple varieties  
Mondo– multiple varieties  
Purple Winter Creeper- *Euonymus fortunei*  
Succulents- *Sedum* spp; many others

## **TROPICALS**

Asparagus Fern– *Asparagus springerii*  
Croton– multiple varieties  
Frangipani- *Plumeria* spp.  
Hibiscus– multiple varieties  
Plumbago– *Plumbago auriculata*

## **VINES**

Coral Honeysuckle– *Lonicera sempervirens*  
Crossvine– *Bignonia capreolata*  
Mandevilla– *Mandevilla* varieties  
Passionvine– *Passiflora* spp.

## **PLANTS FOR SHADY POOLS**

Caladium– *Caladium* spp.  
Cast Iron Plant- *Aspidistra elatior*  
Cycad Palm– *Cycas revoluta*  
Elephant Ear– multiple varieties  
Japanese Aralia– *Fatsia japonica*  
Spider Lily– *Hymenocallis liriosme*

***This is not an all-inclusive list. See a Garden Advisor for help with many other plants perfect for your pool.***

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