



HEAVENLY HYDRANGEAS

Scott Aker

U.S. National Arboretum

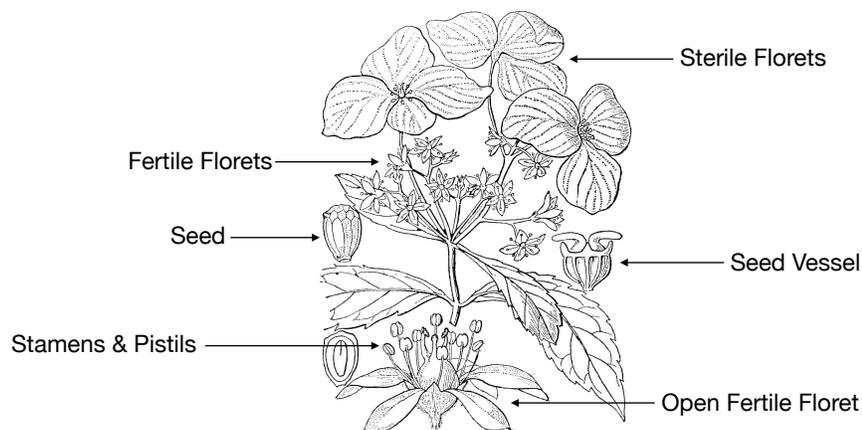
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Better Hydrangeas for Better Gardens

- **Flowering even if overwintering buds are killed** – Overwintering buds already have the flowers in them. If the terminal buds are killed, there won't be any flowers.
- **Attractive senesced flowers** – Flower senescence is the terminal phase of the developmental process that leads to the death of a flower. Senesced flowers sometimes turn brown and are unattractive. However, they can also be more attractive than when the flower was at its peak.
- **Foliage interest** – When hydrangea are not in bloom, they have attractive foliage.
- **Greater tolerance to heat and drought** – Hydrangea are indicator plants in the garden. If it is wilted, it's time to water the garden.
- **Hardiness** – Cold snaps in March can do a lot of damage to hydrangea. As climate changes, we need to have plants that are hardier.
- **Smaller size** – People tend to have smaller yards so we need plants that are smaller to fit that scale.
- **Ease of propagation** – Easy to propagate; root from cuttings.

Hydrangea Flower Structure

Hydrangea are inflorescence – a group or cluster of flowers arranged on a stem that is composed of a main branch. They are usually domed or conical shaped called a panicle. Sterile florets have showy petals but lack pollen and female parts (stamens and pistils). Fertile florets lack showy petals but you can see the stamens and the pistils – this is where the seeds come from.



Remontant Flowering

Remontant flowering means flowering again; flowering sporadically from new growth as well as from flower buds formed at the end of the previous season.

About Plant Names

<i>Hydrangea</i>	genus
<i>macrophylla</i>	species
var. <i>normalis</i>	variety
‘PIIHM-I’	cultivar
TWIST-N-SHOUT	trade name

Types of Hydrangeas

Only blue cultivars can be blue, and they will only be blue if grown in acidic soil. Use iron sulfate at the rate of ½ cup worked into the soil around the plant in spring to acidify the soil.

1. *Hydrangea macrophylla* ‘Nikko Blue’ – Desired for its splendid, abundant, showy flower clusters. Handsome green foliage on a boldly branched, mounded form. Blooms on old wood. When planted in acidic soils, produces azure blue flowers; in more alkaline soils, flower color may have a pink hue.
2. *Hydrangea macrophylla* ‘Bailmer’ ENDLESS SUMMER – A deciduous shrub that produces mophead type blooms on both new and old wood. Clear pink blooms in alkaline soils and blue blooms in acidic soils.
3. *Hydrangea macrophylla* ‘Bailmacfive’ ENDLESS SUMMER CRUSH – This mophead hydrangea has large dark pink flowers held upright by strong stems. Blooms on new and old wood. It's a compact hydrangea that blooms all summer long. Dark green foliage takes on a burgundy-red color in fall. Iron sulfate will not turn this plant blue – it will turn it purple. Heat and drought tolerant and short in stature.
4. *Hydrangea macrophylla* ‘PIIHM-II’ ENDLESS SUMMER BLOOMSTRUCK – A compact hydrangea that blooms all summer long. Large pink or purple blooms depending on soil pH. Dark green foliage takes on a burgundy-red color in fall. A good hydrangea for a pot on the deck.
5. *Hydrangea macrophylla* ‘PIIHM-I’ TWIST-N-SHOUT – A stunning, lacecap hydrangea that blooms on old and new wood providing blooms all season long. White blooms mature to pink in alkaline soils and periwinkle blue in acidic soils.
6. *Hydrangea macrophylla* ‘Bernier’ LET’S DANCE BIG EASY – Large, vividly colored mophead blooms on sturdy stems – superb cut flowers. The huge blooms go through a festive procession of color changes, from pinkish green to pure pink, and often back to green. Soil pH will affect bloom color.
7. *Hydrangea macrophylla* ‘SMHMLDD’ LET’S DANCE DIVA – Features bold pink lacecap flowers with blue overtones at the ends of the branches from early summer to early fall.

8. *Hydrangea macrophylla* 'Kolmgarip' EVERLASTING GARNET – Covered in saturated, gem colored flowers on a compact and sturdy garden plant. Blooms are reddish-pink or blue, depending on the soil acidity. As the flowers age, they change colors.
9. *Hydrangea macrophylla* 'Hokomorevo' EVERLASTING REVOLUTION – A reblooming mophead cultivar that flowers on both old and new wood. Greenish light blue flowers that turn to deep purple.
10. *Hydrangea macrophylla* 'RIE 4' YOU-ME PASSION – This hydrangea can be manipulated in color. Notable because the florets have extra petals. When they first open, they have the appearance of a lacecap, but eventually fill out creating a mophead effect with double flowers. Flower petals have a pointed edge.
11. *Hydrangea macrophylla* 'Ramars' CITYLINE MARS – A small compact shrub with very unique flowers. The blooms range from red or pink with lime green edges, to blue and purple with white edges on the petals. The flower petals have a variegated look to them. The color is determined by the soil pH.
12. *Hydrangea macrophylla* 'Lady in Red' – A lovely hydrangea with distinctive style and seasonal color. Pinkish white lacecap summer blooms mature to a lush burgundy rose color. Deep red stems and leaf veins complement the lush green foliage which becomes reddish purple in fall.
13. *Hydrangea macrophylla* 'Maculata' – A wonderful variegated plant. Although sometimes confused with other variegated varieties, this hydrangea is one of the best variegated plants. Typically, every leaf will have some variegation. The lacecap bloom will be white but ages to blue or pink with the pH of the soil. The center florets will be deep blue or pink depending on the acidity of the soil.
14. *Hydrangea serrata* 'Beni Gaku' – A compact, deciduous shrub laden with large lacecap flowers, up to 6 inches. The flower heads are composed of large, showy sterile sepals radiating around a cluster of fine fertile florets. Emerging white, the sepals mature to pink with deep red edges.
15. *Hydrangea serrata* 'MAK20' TUFF STUFF – Reddish-pink lacecap flowers bloom early summer until frost. The semi-double to double florets begin with creamy coloration in the center before maturing to intense pink. Blooms on old and new wood.
16. *Hydrangea serrata* 'SMNMAKTSR' TUFF STUFF RED – These unique hydrangeas fare better in cold weather. Large, lacecap flowers are a deep pink-red color with lustrous, deep green foliage. Blooms in early summer on old wood and continues to produce flowers on new wood through autumn, ensuring a showy, abundant display.
17. *Hydrangea serrata* 'SMNHSDD' TUFF STUFF AHA – Sterile florets are doubled and waterlily-like, taking on outstanding pink or blue coloration depending on soil conditions.
18. *Hydrangea serrata* 'Miyama-yae-murasaki' PURPLE TIERS – A compact hydrangea with rich colors of purple to blue double petaled flowers that sit on long pedicels producing a waterfall-like effect with the cascading bloom heads.

19. *Hydrangea arborescens* 'NCHA1' INVINCIBELLE SPIRIT – The first-ever Annabelle hydrangea, producing loads of snowball shaped blooms from early summer to first frost. Dark pink buds open to hot pink flowers, fading to soft pink and finally to green.
20. *Hydrangea aspera* 'Plum Passion' – A unique deciduous shrub with greenish purple new foliage, the leaves aging to deep purple with rosy purple undersides. Wispy flowers contrast nicely with the dramatic, colorful foliage.
21. *Hydrangea paniculata* 'Tardiva' – A late flowering cultivar with loosely-packed, sharply pointed white flower heads that turn purplish-pink with age. It is a vigorous, fast growing deciduous shrub that reaches 8 to 12 feet tall.
22. *Hydrangea paniculata* 'Limelight' – One of the most winter hardy of the hydrangeas, featuring dense, luxuriant soft chartreuse/white conical flowers, ranging from 6 to 12 inches.
23. *Hydrangea paniculata* 'Dvppinky' PINKY-WINKY – Large panicles open white in mid-to-late summer, turning to pink as the season progresses, for a two-toned effect.
24. *Hydrangea paniculata* 'RENhy' VANILLA STRAWBERRY – Beautiful, full blooms start out a creamy white in mid-summer, and mature to a rich strawberry-pink color. This variety also features showy red stems.
25. *Hydrangea paniculata* 'Bulk' QUICK FIRE – Noted for its early summer bloom of flowers that age from white to antique pink. New growth stems are red which contrasts well with the white blooms and green foliage.
26. *Hydrangea paniculata* 'ILVOBO' BOBO – A dwarf hydrangea that reaches just three feet tall. Engulfed by enormous creamy white flowers in summer, providing nonstop show until frost. In fall, flowers may turn a pinkish hue.
27. *Hydrangea quercifolia* 'Ruby Slippers' – A profusion of exceptionally large flower clusters in summer are showcased against dark green, deeply lobed oak like leaves. Blossoms open white, quickly age to deep pink and mature to ruby red. Foliage turns a brilliant mahogany in fall.
28. *Hydrangea quercifolia* 'Munchkin' – This cultivar was developed by the U.S. National Arboretum's shrub breeding program in McMinnville, TN from seedlings obtained from a 1997 open-pollination of *Hydrangea quercifolia* 'Sikes Dwarf'. Released in 2010, it is a dwarf, compact shrub with large upright red blooms and dark green foliage that turns mahogany red in fall.
29. *Hydrangea quercifolia* 'Queen of Hearts' – Another remarkable release from the U.S. National Arboretum's shrub breeding program in McMinnville, TN. Noted for its large, upright, conical flower panicles which open white but gradually age to an attractive deep pink. Large, deeply-lobed, oak-like, medium green leaves turn mahogany-red in fall.
30. *Hydrangea hydrangeoides* syn. *Schizophragma hydrangeoides* 'Moonlight' – A superb self-clinging vine with huge, creamy white lacecap hydrangea-like blooms. As the vine matures, the fragrant flowers will increase in lacecap abundance. The silvery blue-green heart-shaped leaves turn yellow in the fall.

31. *Dichroa febrifuga* ‘Summer Skies’ – Clusters of sky-blue flowers adorn this evergreen hydrangea relative in late summer followed by metallic turquoise berries that linger through winter.

Pruning Hydrangeas

Cut back to 6” annually or biannually—*Hydrangea arborescens*

Cut back to 1-2’ every five years—*Hydrangea paniculata*

Remove oldest canes every five years—*Hydrangea quercifolia*, *Hydrangea macrophylla*

Drying Hydrangeas

When drying hydrangeas, *Hydrangea macrophylla* and *Hydrangea paniculata* work best. Wait until the flowers are past maturity, no longer wilting when cut, but not yet fading to tan or brown.

Air Dry—hang upside down in warm, dry, dark location.

Vase Dry—dry in water in vase in a dark location.

Silica Gel—place upside down in container and sift silica gel around the flower head.