

name-common-scientific <input type="checkbox"/>	type	season	difficulty	requirements-light -water -soil	size	comments	invasiveness	from	recommend
African Bauhinia	perennial - shrub	summer	easy	sun - alternate wet & dry - well-drained - heavy soil with humus	4'x5' in 3yrs	love the stunning display of brilliant red/orange 3" or larger flowers	no	anon	yes
Angel's trumpet (Brugmansia)	perennial	spring, fall bloom	very easy	part-sun, average water, well-drained, any soil with humus	to 8 ft. tall, 2-3 ft wide, fast grower	if top freezes in winter will come up late spring from roots; easy to root stem cuttings - just stick them in the ground; huge blooms; likes lawn food (NO herbicide) fertilizer; poisonous plant	no	LS; 7 yrs	yes
Bauhinia variegata (Purple Orchid Tree)	perennial (Hardy to 22 F)	spring bloom	easy	sun or part sun, regular water, well drained	20-35 ft tree (mine ~12 ft)	Easy and fast from seedling. Prune to shape.	Seeds when dropped will sprout - easy to remove	LS	
Bear's Breeches	perennial	spring, fall, winter	easy	shade - dry - well-drained - heavy soil	3'x2' in 2-3 mos		no	anon - 3yrs	yes
Butterfly weed	perennial	spring to frost	easy	sun well-drained soil	2-3 ft	Monarch butterfly eggs are laid under the leaves. Caterpillars are yellow, white and black. leaves grow back. Attracts aphids away from other plants. DON'T use pesticides or you'll kill Monarchs.	seeds blow away with the wind; a few could show up anywhere.	AK	
Calla lily - white	perennial	spring - mostly dies back by mid-summer	moderate	sun to part-sun in shade. more shade in summer good garden soil, moist but well-drained	2'	elegant, striking spring accent. looks sad in summer	not	JP 6yrs, LS 2yrs	

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Callisia fragrans - looks like bromeliad	tender perennial	spring-fall growth; late winter bloom (tall flower spike, tiny insignificant white blooms)	easy	part-sun, shade	12" x 12"	Wandering jew family; great for hanging basket' rosette shape with runners; ~1.5 in strapping green leaves with dark purple/maroon center if more sun; if in the ground runs; potted plants bloom in late winter if kept away from light at night;	yes, but EXTREMELY easy to pull up	LS, 4 yrs.	yes
Clerodendrum quadriloculae	shrub	?	easy, but will not bloom	part-sun, average water, well-drained, clay muck	4 ft tall x 3 ft wide	Love the shrub, but how can I get it to bloom? Love the shape and leaves.	no	anon, 3 yrs	?
Cuphea, Purple fuzzies cuphea	Annual/perennial?	spring, summer, fall	easy	sun, average water, well-drained, sandy soil w/ humus	30" tall; 15" wide	Was blooming when I got it in Sept (plant sale) & is still blooming (Jan)	no	anon, 6 months	yes
Dianthus - First Love	perennial	spring, fall, winter	easy	am sun - avg water - well-drained - heavy soil with humus	1'x1' slowly	evergreen - no growth when hot. deadhead often	yes	anon - 3yrs	yes
Dianthus - melody pink	perennial	spring, fall	easy to OK	sun (or part sun in summer; not too shady), average to low water, well-drained, loose with humus	8 inches tall and wide	the patch planted with am Sun, and LOTS of compost did best - even with low water in the summer. One of few dianthus to survive Houston summer.	no	LS, 1 yr.	yes
Duranta - Dark Skies	Root hardy shrub	Late spring to fall	easy, if well established before 1st cold winter	full sun, will take light shade	8' x 11'(LS: Smaller in pots - great patio plant )	thornless. Butterflies and skippers love it. dangling yellow berries. Kept leaves in mild winter.		AK, JP - 2yrs	yes

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Duranta - blue	shrub	spring to frost	easy	art sun - avg water, drainage - clay muck	5'+ (LS: also good for 10 - 12 in pot)	beautiful as trained shrub, trimmed to size. evergreen with yellow/orange berries fall and winter. LS: Easy to start from cuttings in soil.	no	anon - 5yrs, LS, 4 years	yes
Evergreen Wisteria - Millettia reticulata	perennial vine	summer	difficult	sun, average water, well-drained, heavy soil with humus		barely alive after 2 years	not	anon	no
Evergreen Wisteria - Millettia reticulata	vine	summer	easy	full sun, will take light shade - heavy soil with some humus - avg water, drainage	15' +	needs cutting back to keep in bounds. fragrant purple flowers.	not	JP 10yrs	yes
Gulf Coast penstemon (Penstemon tenuis)	native perennial	spring bloom	easy	part shade, survives on rainfall mostly, likes gumbo, unimproved soil	basal rosette. Bloom & seed spike ~1-2 ft.	Great ground cover under tree. 1st planted in rich bed, it died after flowering, but seedlings popped up between cracks & in other less fertile soil areas. Those in gumbo bloomed too.	Not very, but seedlings do pop up - easy to remove	LS	
(Penstemon tenuis)	native perennial	spring	easy	Sun/part sun Not fussy about soil or water	1'-2'	Spreads slowly – be careful when weeding – the leaves on the new plants don't look like the flowering stalks.	no	JP 6yrs	yes
Jatropha integerrima	perennial	summer - fall	takes some care	sun - average water - well-drained - heavy soil with humus	4' 6"x 3' annually	root hardy but late returning in spring	yes	anon 4 yrs	yes
Katie ruellia	perennial	spring til frost	easy	sun to part sun any soil	to 18" - cut back to keep low	proven performer with constant blooms. white and pink forms may be shorter to 10"	reseeds with gay abandon	JP 12yrs	

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Lemon Shrimp plant - <i>Justica</i>	perennial	spring to frost	easy	part-sun - alternate wet & dry - well-drained - heavy soil with humus	3'x 1' after 1yr	beautiful pale yellow blooms almost constantly except when really cold	no	anon	yes
Meyer lemon	tree	spring - summer	some care needed	sun to part sun - avg water, not too soggy --loose, sandy soil with humus	4'x4' in 6 yrs	in 3'x3' wood planter. 14-29 lemons avg. 110 in 2005. rolls into garage when freezing. host for swallowtail caterpillars. fragrant flowers.	no	KH - 6yrs	yes
Persian shield ( <i>Strobilanthes dyerianus</i> )	perennial (semi-tender)	summer	easy	shade, part-shade; moist or average water when established; well-drained with humus	up to 4 ft x 3 ft and leggy if not cut back; prune to smaller size and to shape	beautiful purple leaves with a sheen; usually moist soil, but I have it established for 4 years in protected, shady atrium - almost no additional moisture needed - even in summer; start from tip cuttings.	no	LS 4 yrs.	yes
Porter weed	perennial	spring - summer-fall		part-sun - average water - not too soggy soil - clay muck	30"x14"	didn't fill out or attract butterflies as expected	no	DE	no
Rose - Belinda's Dream	perennial	all year	easy	sun, need watering in summer, rich improved soil	4' x4'; can prune back drastically in spring	large pink flowers. .	no	LS	
<i>Salvia coccinea</i> (native red salvia, also in white & coral)	native perennial	all year	easy	sun or part sun; regular water; any soil in my yard	6" up to 5 ft., just keep it cut back. Can be cut to the ground & will grow back.	tough plant. Just keep snapping the stem off to keep lower & bushier. Can take any amount of pruning. Reseeds.	Reseeder, but not too invasive. seedlings replace old plants	LS (~5 years, different plants	

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Stromanthes - purple Stromanthes	perennial	spring, summer, fall	OK with a little care	shade; needs to be kept moist; well-drained; heavy soil with lots of humus	6 in high; 12 in wide; slow growth	really needs moisture; it's leaves, which are very pretty green/purple, turns yellow when the soil dries out; sold at plant sale	no	anon; 2 years;	yes; like it