



A formal pruned rose garden with companion boxwood hedges begins its spring leafing.

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Light: Record where the sun is during different times of the day. Remember that tall plants will provide shade for smaller plants that need protection.

Water: Roots need oxygen to survive. Waterlogged roots rot. Vegetables require about one inch of water a week, columbines prefer a moist environment, while succulents succeed in drier soils. Determine your own watering personality then choose compatible plants accordingly.

Pest Control: One of the most exciting things about companion planting is how various plants can attract good bugs and deter the bad ones when surrounded by their friends. Alliums are terrific company for almost all plants except asparagus and beans!

When building your garden, think about building a community of friends.

Roses are jewels of the garden for at least three seasons, and, as with their mineral cousins, their beauty is enhanced when placed in the right setting. According to rose expert Michael Marriott, senior rosarian and technical manager of David Austin Roses Ltd. in Albrighton, England, roses are beautifully suited to mixed garden borders. The trick to combining roses successfully with other garden plants lies in knowing which will play well together. Although we don't normally plant roses with our vegetables, rose petals are edible. Gathered early in the morning, they make a tasty topping for salads and soups.

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Favorite Blue Perennials:

Lavender
Blue Eyed Grass
Monkshood
Aster
Bellflower
Cornflower
Delphinium
Sea holly
Geranium
Salvia
Pincushion flower
Veronica
Viola

Favorite Other Colored Perennials:

Agastache
Candytuft
Chamomile
Columbine
Penstemon
Black-eyed Susan
Sedum
Verbena

Favorite Biennial

Foxglove

Favorite Annuals

Cosmos
Nicotiana
Nigella
Poppy
Sweet pea

Favorite Hedge

Boxwoods



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