

Planting Layout Suggestions for Potted Plant Garden Kits

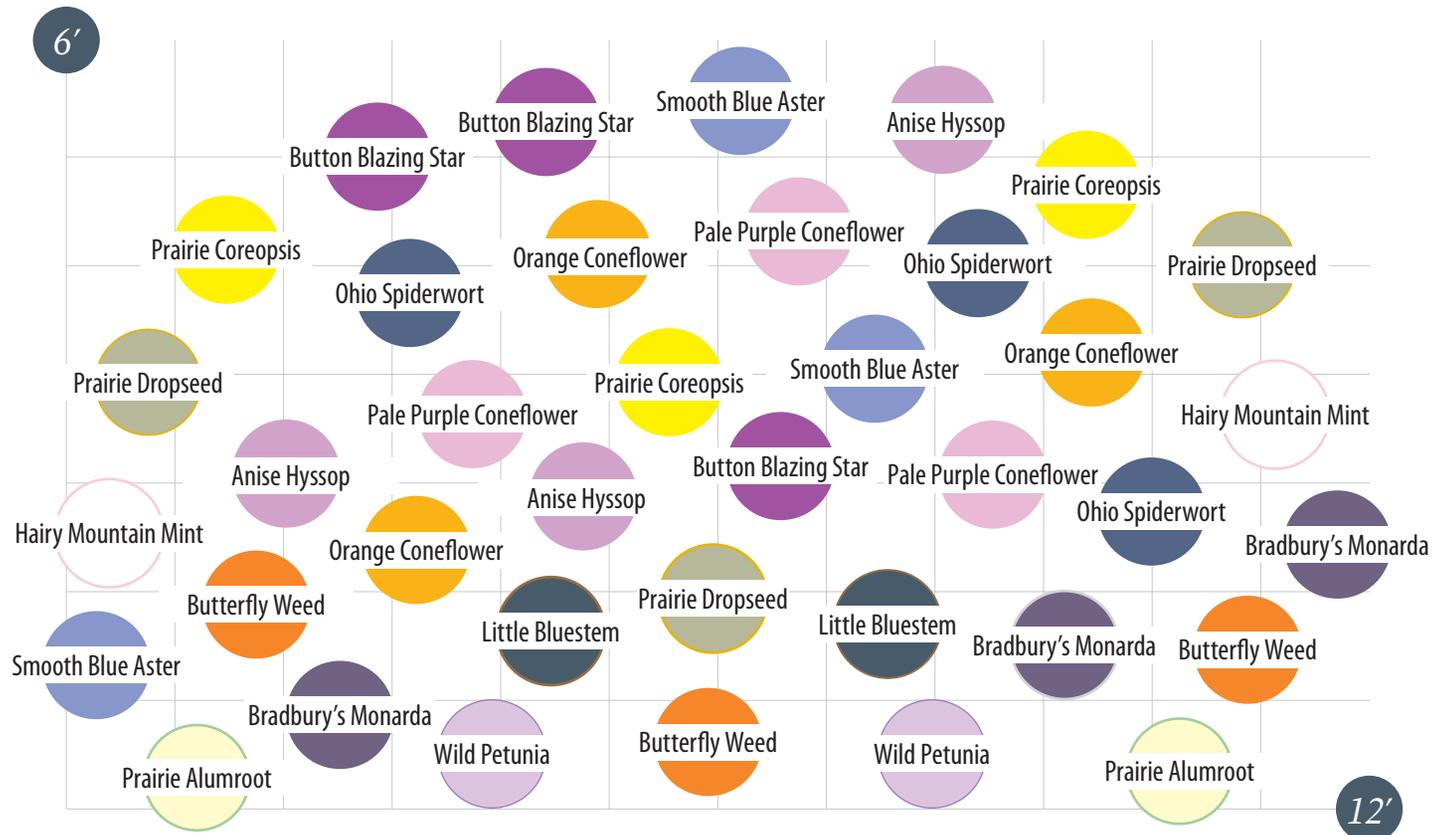
Our high-value kits of 38 plants boast 14 species. A kit will start a garden of approximately 75 square feet; this could be an area measuring six by twelve feet. With a smaller planting such as this (or even up to a couple hundred square feet) there are some basic design ideas to consider when placing plants within the garden.

DISPERSED: By trying to evenly disperse each species of plant in the kit throughout the planting area, you will maximize the visual interplay between plants and take maximum advantage of the self-seeding and natural spreading capacity of each plant. It may be practical to place the taller plants toward the center or back so that they are better contained within the garden. For a true naturalized garden this may be the best way to start.

GROUPS AND DRIFTS: Sometimes people like to see a bit more immediate order to their planting. This could be achieved by grouping each species in its own sector of the garden or elongating these groups into loose lines or drifts of plants. Our kits can be augmented with a mix-and-match tray of four to six species to add larger groupings or drifts of favorite species.

Butterfly & Hummingbird Garden, Dry

FOR **DRIER** SOILS AND NEAR FULL SUN EXPOSURE.



* We may need to substitute appropriate species, without notice, in the case of unexpected greenhouse failures or sold out species later in the season.

Here we **dispersed** the plants in a rectangular/kidney bean shape to elongate each species to a greater degree, giving a non-formal appeal typical of a natural prairie. Tall plants may best be placed as focal points against a wall or fence or, in an open area, in the center. A layout like this would encourage plants to self-seed and spread, filling up the spaces to achieve the look of a small drier or upland prairie. This layout is just a suggestion.



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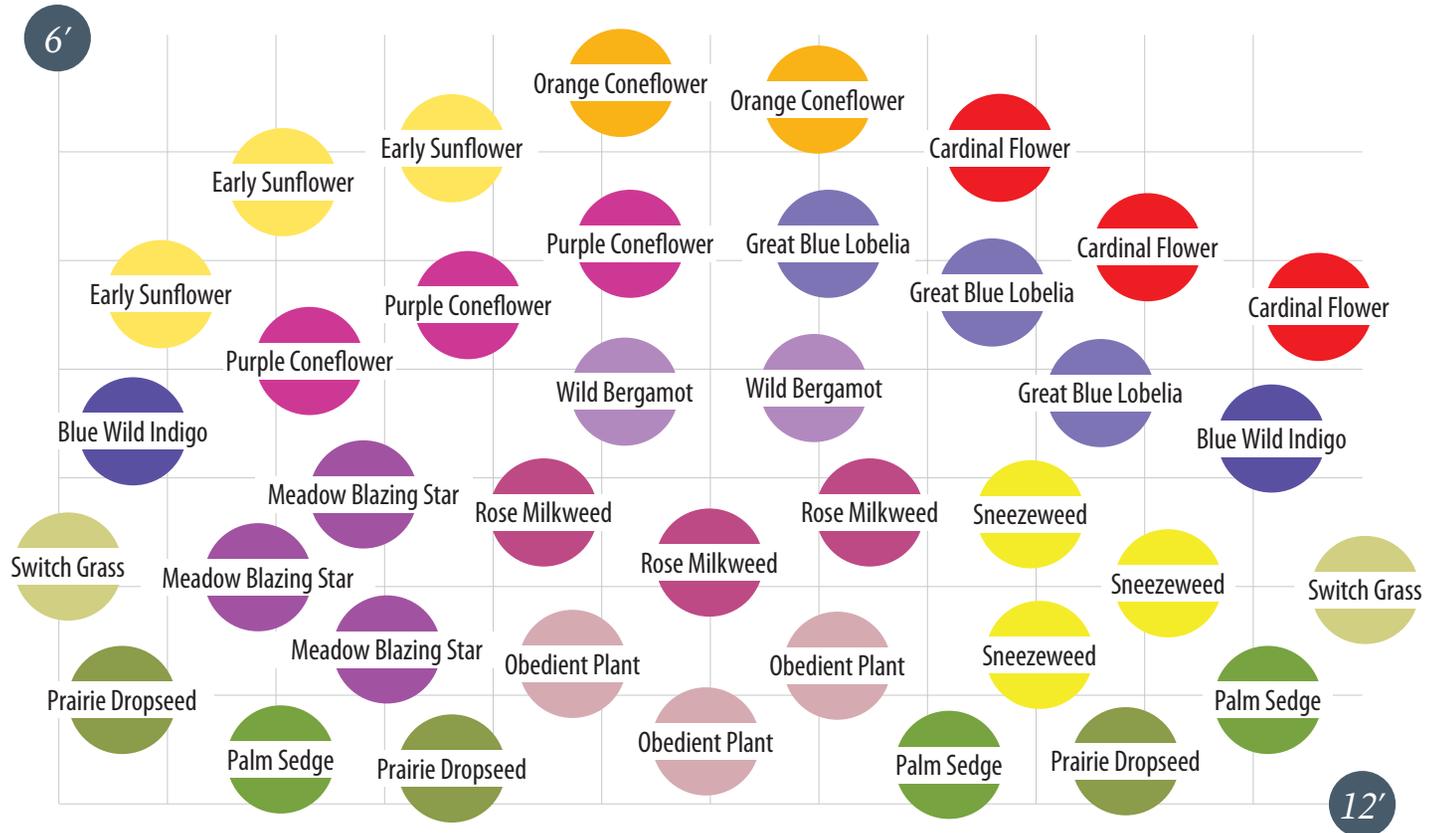
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Butterfly & Hummingbird Garden, Moist

FOR MOIST SOILS AND FULL TO PART SUN EXPOSURE.



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This layout has most of the plants in single-species **groups**. The texture of an ornamental grass like Switch Grass and the wide, shrub-like Blue Wild Indigo flanking both sides, gives this 75 sq.-ft. area a more structured, formalized look than the naturalized layout shown above. A layout of this type might require continued use of mulch over the years, pulling of new seedlings and/or dead-heading seed heads to keep plants in their groups. The taller species, Rose Milkweed and Wild Bergamot, might be best placed in the center of the planting for support.



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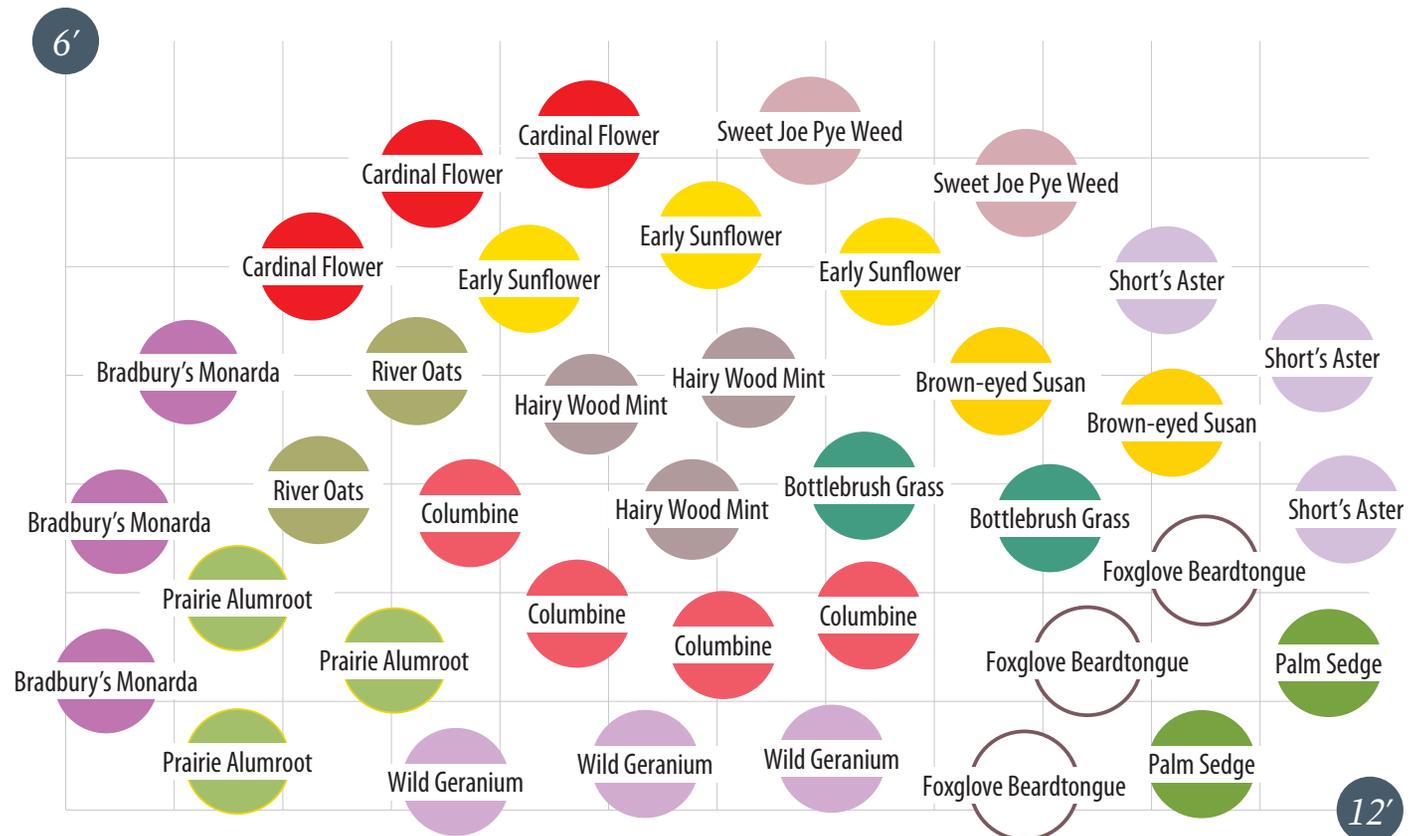
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Semi-Shade Woodland Garden

FOR MEDIUM SOILS



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In this kit we placed plants according to height and sun-exposure. Taller plants like Sweet Joe Pye Weed, Hairy Wood Mint and Early Sunflower in the back assume the site is up against a fence, house or hillside. To replicate a scenario where half of the planting site receives a little more sun, Bradbury's Monarda, Prairie Alumroot and Cardinal Flower were placed on the "sunnier" edge. Since many woodland species are often difficult or slow to grow from seed, this kit could be augmented with individual bare roots of non-ephemeral species such as Ferns, Wild Ginger, Jack-in-the-Pulpit, May Apple or Solomon's Plume.



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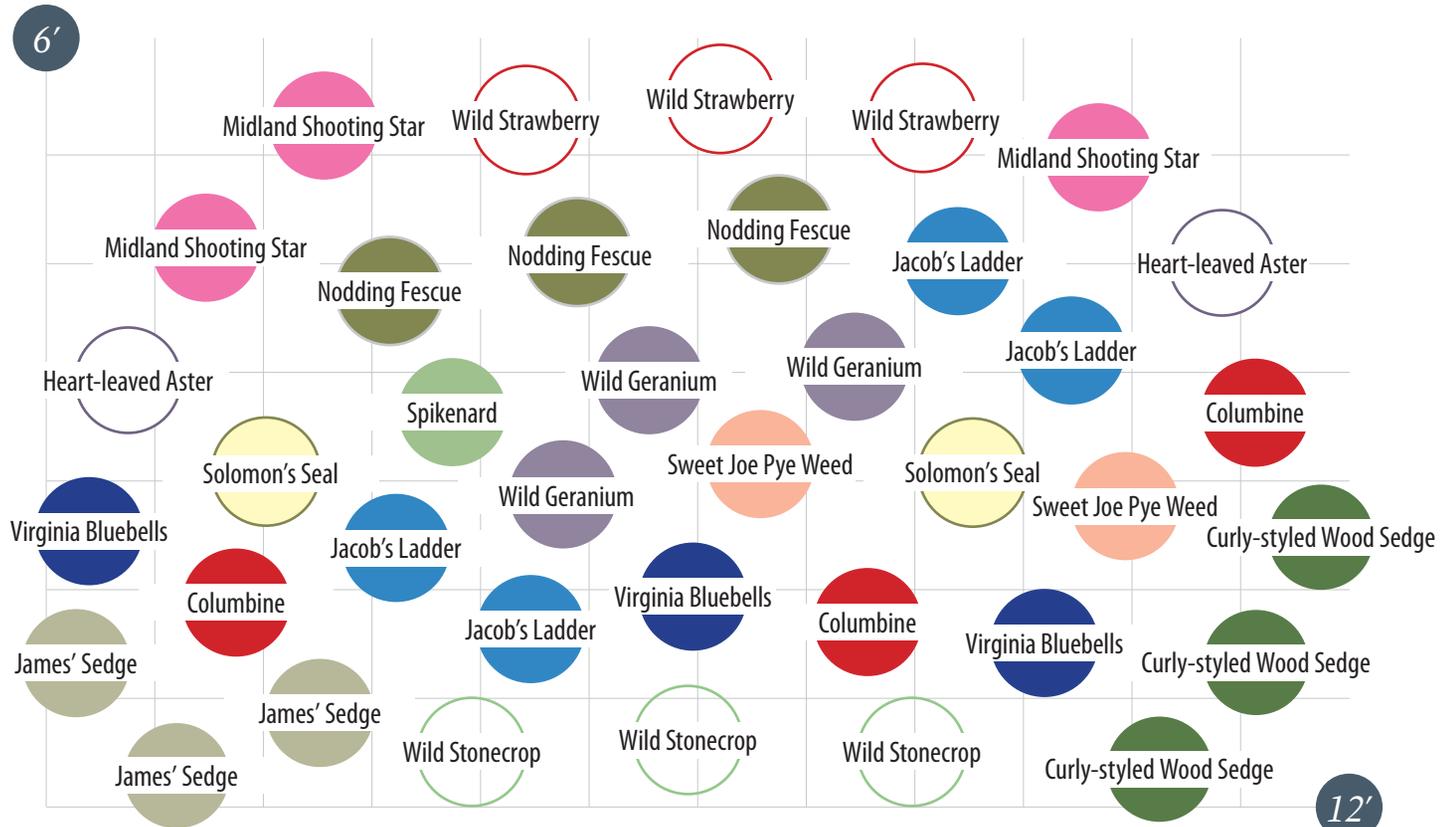
Woodland Garden Kit

FOR MEDIUM SOILS AND FULL TO PART SHADE

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This layout is a combination of dispersed and grouped plants. The low “carpeting” plants like Wild Strawberry and Wild Stonecrop are placed on the outside, with the taller plants like Sweet Joe Pye Weed in the garden center. This allows the garden to be seen in full seasonally and from all directions. Clip and collect seeds to manage redistribution or leave seed heads to enjoy from late spring through fall.

