

# Black and White Garden

## Licking County Master Gardener Volunteers Learning Center for Gardening



Black and white gardens are a study in contrasts. These gardens are a way to add something unusual, beautiful, and elegant to your space. The contrast between the black flowers/foilage and the white flowers/foilage give a calm but striking appearance every time you see it. White blossoms can symbolize hope, renewal, innocence, cleanliness or wealth. In medieval times, white was associated with being wealthy as only the rich could afford to keep their garments clean and sparkling. Although there are no truly black blooms or foliage, some very deep purple or red hues appear almost black. Black blooms can symbolize mourning or sadness, but can also be a symbol of luxury, class, refinement, and quality.

### WHAT GROWS HERE

Annuals:

- Centaurea Cyanus, Cornflower/Bachelors Buttons “Black Magic” - full sun 20-24” tall, 12” wide, blooms in summer
- Impomoea “Spotlight Black - full sun, 8-10” high, 16-20” wide
- Angelonia Angustifolia “Angel Flare Black”- full sun, 8-12” high, 12-18” wide
- Angelonia Angustifolia “Angel Flare White”- full sun, 8-12” high, 12-18”
- Capsicum, Ornamental Pepper, “Onyx Red” - full sun, 8-10” tall, space 6-8” apart

Biennial: • Alcea Rosea, Hollyhock, “Nigra - full sun, up to 8’ tall, 24” wide, blooms mid to late summer

Perennials:

- Blackmondo Grass - full to partial sun, 6-12” tall, 9-12” wide
- Heuchara (Coral Bells) “Obsidian”- full sun or shade, 8-10” tall, 16-18” wide
- Heuchara (Coral Bells) “Timeless Night”- full sun or shade, 8-10” tall, 16-18” wide
- Liatris “White Blazing Star”- full sun, 3-4’ high, space 18” apart, blooms July-August
- Chrysanthemum “White Garden Mum” - full sun, 18”high, 18-24” wide, blooms late summer to fall
- Leucanthemum “Shasta Daisy” - full sun, 42”high, 24”wide, blooms summer to early fall
- Phlox “White Garden Phlox”- full sun, 28-30” high, 24” wide, blooms midsummer
- Liliium, Asiatic Lily, “Landini” - (bulb), full to part sun, 36-40” tall, blooms early to mid summer

Perennial/Shrub: • Buddleia, Butterfly Bush, “Miss Pearl” - full sun, 4-5’ high, 4-5’ wide, blooms summer to fall

### HOW WE GROW IT

The trick to planning a black and white garden is to strike a fine balance between form, texture, and color. In this garden the black and white plants are separated with two beds with black blooms/foilage and two beds with white blooms/foilage. This type of garden is well suited to growing in containers.

### Resources

<https://extension.okstate.edu/fact-sheets/container-gardening.html>

<https://extension.psu.edu/the-art-of-container-gardening>



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