

# SPRING AWAKENING

Designed by David Bailey of Urban Oasis



**A** - Basket of Gold  
**B** - Blue Buckle Penstemon  
**C** - Dwarf Oriental Poppy

**D** - European Pasque Flower  
**E** - Hidcote Lavender  
**F** - Prairie Smoke Avena

## **A** Basket of Gold *Aurinia saxatilis* 'Gold Ball' **Mature Height:** 8-12" **Mature Spread:** 12-18"

**Hardy To:** 10,000'

**Water:** Low

**Exposure:** Sun

**Flower Color:** Yellow

**Flower Season:** Early Spring

**Attracts:** Butterflies

**Resistant To:** Deer

**Description:** With large clusters of small flowers, Basket of Gold is one of the first perennials to show color in the garden. It forms a compact mound of thick, gray-green leaves that are covered by bright yellow flowers.

**Care:** This plant will thrive in average, well-drained soil, and it may actually become floppy and begin to rot if the soil is too rich or moist. Heat and humidity can also cause this perennial to be short lived. This perennial rarely needs division.

**Spring:** After first growing season, cut back any winter damage on mature plants to allow new growth.

**Summer:** After first flowering, cut back by half to encourage compact growth and another round of blooms. Remove dead leaves and stems throughout season.

**Fall:** After second blooming, deadhead to prevent self-seeding and spreading.

**Winter:** None. (*Remember winter watering for all plants*).

**Fun Fact:** This plant falls within the *Brassica* or mustard family.

## **B** Blue Buckle Penstemon *Penstemon virgatus* 'Blue Buckle' **Mature Height:** 1-2' **Mature Spread:** 12-18"

**Hardy To:** 9,000'

**Water:** Very Low

**Exposure:** Sun

**Flower Color:** Blue

**Flower Season:** Summer

**Attracts:** Hummingbirds, Butterflies

**Resistant To:** Deer

**Description:** Blue Buckle Penstemon is a long blooming perennial with profuse clusters of blue to blue-purple flowers that bloom throughout the summer. It has wide, glossy, dark green basal leaves that surround stiff stems that have very narrow leaves. An added perk, Blue Buckle will attract hummingbirds galore to your garden!

**Care:** Blue Buckle has an exceptional tolerance for higher altitudes, arid conditions, cold winters, and less than ideal soils. It even tolerates and thrives in acidic soils.

**Spring:** Early spring or late fall, divide mature plants every 3-4 years to reinvigorate growth.

**Summer:** Deadhead to encourage new blooms.

**Fall:** Deadhead or leave last blooms to self-seed and/or feed the birds come winter.

**Winter:** In colder zones, may benefit from loose winter mulching.

**Fun Fact:** Blue Buckle hails from a rather small area in northern New Mexico and northern Arizona. A subspecies of this plant is also found in the Rocky Mountains on either side of the Continental Divide.



## Dwarf Oriental Poppy

*Papaver orientale*

**Mature Height:** 18-24"

**Mature Spread:** 15-18"

**Hardy To:** 9,000'

**Water:** Low

**Exposure:** Sun

**Flower Color:** Orange, Red, Pink or White

**Flower Season:** Late Spring to Early Summer

**Attracts:** Butterflies

**Resistant To:** Deer, Rabbits

**Description:** It grows in loose, free branching mounds with silky textured flowers that form a cheerful and delicate four-petaled cup. Poppy foliage re-appears in the fall with the arrival of cooler weather and disappears after flowering in early summer.

**Care:** Good soil drainage is essential for this drought tolerant perennial, making it a good candidate for garden beds, border fronts and rock gardens. This easy-to-grow flower reseeds readily but is not invasive and needs little to no maintenance. Deadheading does not invite repeat blooms so you may leave spent flowers to develop attractive seed pods. Due to their deep taproot, poppies are finicky for transplanting. Transplant during dormancy if you must transplant at all.

**Spring:** None.

**Summer:** Enters dormancy around August. Do not overwater during dormancy.

**Fall:** In colder zones, may benefit from loose winter mulching.

**Winter:** None.



## European Pasque Flower

*Pulsatilla vulgaris*

**Mature Height:** 6-12"

**Mature Spread:** 8-12"

**Hardy To:** 9,000'

**Water:** Low

**Exposure:** Adaptable

**Flower Color:** Purple

**Flower Season:** Early Spring

**Attracts:** Bees

**Description:** With foliage covered in small hairs that protect this flower from the early spring chill, Pasque Flowers are the harbingers of spring. These starry purple flowers with a fuzzy orange-yellow stamen start blooming in early spring. Its fuzzy seed heads last late into the summer.

**Care:** A Pasque Flower is adapted to chalky and sandy soils at high elevations, and it will not tolerate soggy soils. Overall, this plant likes to be left alone! Due to its long tap root system, the Pasque Flower resents transplanting, and we do not recommend dividing it unless absolutely necessary.

**Spring:** Remove dead foliage **by hand** in spring before new growth emerges.

**Summer:** Goes dormant mid-summer, so you may want to mark its spot with a stake so that you don't accidentally dig it up or weed it out.

**Fall:** None.

**Winter:** None.

**Fun Fact:** This plant belongs to the buttercup family.



## Hidecote Lavender

*Lavandula angustifolia 'Hidcote'*

**Mature Height:** 15-20"

**Mature Spread:** 15-20"

**Hardy To:** 8,500'

**Water:** Low

**Exposure:** Sun

**Flower Color:** Lavender-Blue

**Flower Season:** Early Spring to Mid-Summer

**Attracts:** Butterflies, Hummingbirds

**Resistant To:** Deer, Rabbits

**Description:** Lavender's famously scented lavender-blue flowers on tight spikes thrust above similarly aromatic evergreen foliage creating a compact clump. This compact and cold hardy variety is well suited for our western intermountain climate.

**Care:** Lavender does best in a sheltered but warm, sunny location. Soil must be well-drained to avoid any root problems and it thrives in poor, alkaline soil. Plant in raised beds, on slopes and areas that will not collect excess water. For dried flowers, cut flowers when the first hint of color shows at the base of the spike.

**Spring:** After first growing season, cut back mature plants to 4 inches to allow new growth.

**Summer:** None.

**Fall:** Late season, cut back by one third.

**Winter:** None.

**Fun Fact:** Lavender is traditionally used in herbal medicine in the form of oil or tea for various applications. It is also a key ingredient in the well-known French culinary herb blend Herbes de Provence.



## Prairie Smoke Avens

*Geum triflorum*

**Mature Height:** 6-12"

**Mature Spread:** 6-12"

**Hardy To:** 8,000'

**Water:** Low

**Exposure:** Sun to Filtered Shade

**Flower Color:** Pink to Creamy White

**Flower Season:** Late Spring

**Attracts:** Native Bees, Bumblebees, Butterflies

**Description:** Thin arching stems produce three flowers. The rosy pink seed pods, for which it got its name, resemble puffs of smoke. Rosettes of semi-evergreen fern-like foliage turn a striking red, purple, and orange in the fall and winter months.

**Care:** This hardy plant does well in a variety of soils, except water-logged soils. Prefers dry, well-drained soil in full sun with afternoon shade during hot summers. In fall, the seed heads dry out turning gold making for a great cut flower for dried bouquets.

**Spring:** Early spring or late fall, divide mature plants every 3 years to contain spreading and/or for propagation. Benefits from a bit more moisture in the spring.

**Summer:** Pull back on watering as it is pretty drought tolerant the remainder of the year. Once established though, it might droop a bit in the summer heat.

**Fall:** None.

**Winter:** Avoid too much moisture in the winter as it may succumb to root rot.

**Fun Fact:** Historically, Native Americans have used Prairie Smoke medicinally.

# 1 PLANT BY NUMBER DESIGN OPTION:

1 BOX = 1 SQUARE FOOT

