

Mirror OFFERS

Blanche Coupland's best buys to make your garden great

Half Price Dwarf Patio Shrubs

Add colour to your patio pots or the border with our premium dwarf flowering shrubs



Bestselling Dwarf Patio Shrubs

Six superb dwarf flowering shrubs that have been specially selected as they are ideal for patio containers, low borders and rockeries. They provide a splash of colour at a compact size that remains manageable, flowering from June until the first frosts of autumn. Planted together they make the ultimate summer display, guaranteed to bring charm and colour to any garden, regardless of size. 9cm pot grown plants supplied.

- A. Hydrangea Rosy Summer £6.45
- B. Hypericum Orange Flair £6.45
- C. Cerastium Plumbaginoides £6.45
- D. Spiraea Japonica Goldflame £6.45
- E. Spiraea Shirobana £6.45
- F. Caryopteris Heavenly Blue £6.45

Free delivery within 14 days.

5 Half Price Dwarf Flowering Shrubs Collection £19.35 - You will receive one each of all six varieties (A-F).

Call **0843 922 5000** (quoting SM34696)

or visit **MirrorGardenOffers.co.uk**

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ALTERNATIVELY COMPLETE THE COUPON IN BLOCK CAPITALS AND SEND IT TO:
Mirror Dwarf Flowering Shrubs SM34696, PO Box 64, South West District Office, Manchester, M16 9HY

TITLE	INITIAL	SURNAME	PLEASE SEND ME	QTY	PRICE	TOTAL
ADDRESS: _____ _____ POST CODE: _____ DOB: _____ (MM/YY) TEL NO (or mobile): _____ NAME ON CARD: _____ SIGNATURE: _____			A. HYDRANGEA ROSY SUMMER	1	£6.45	£6.45
			B. HYPERICUM ORANGE FLAIR	1	£6.45	£6.45
			C. CERASTIUM PLUMBAGINOIDES	1	£6.45	£6.45
			D. SPIRAEA JAPONICA GOLDFLAME	1	£6.45	£6.45
			E. SPIRAEA SHIROBANA	1	£6.45	£6.45
			F. CARYOPTERIS HEAVENLY BLUE	1	£6.45	£6.45
			5 HALF PRICE DWARF FLOWERING SHRUBS COLLECTION	1	£19.35	£19.35
					FREE	
					TOTAL	£

I enclose a cheque/PO for the amount of £_____ made payable to SM34696

(name and address on the back please) or debit my credit/debit card for the sum of £_____

CARD NO: _____ MAESTRO 16+ NIS _____

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Calls cost 7p per minute plus your phone company's access charge. These goods are sold and supplied by J. Parker Dutch Bubs (Wholesale) Ltd, with whom you contract when you accept this offer.

Gardening

Q&A



Roses are dead, I'm feeling blue...

» How do I stop the flowers on my rose from being so short-lived?

Gareth Jones, Swansea DAVID: Even established roses will struggle to maintain flowers in hot weather without extra watering and feeding.

Give them a generous drink once a week – twice in very hot weather – and make sure it soaks to the roots. A folia feed sprayed directly on to leaves gives healthier foliage without disturbing its roots.



Please can I get some dahlia help?

» Why are my dahlia plants green and bushy, but have no flowers? **Bill P, Stanmore DAVID:** A common cause of this sort of problem is giving the wrong sort of fertiliser.

Those high in nitrogen (for healthy stem and leaf growth) and low in potassium – which helps develop flowers – can leave healthy-looking plants with few buds. Feed once a week with a fertiliser designed for flowering plants, give full sunshine and keep hydrated.

TIP of the week

Use ordinary coffee filters in the bottom of potted containers for an environmentally friendly way to prevent compost washing away during watering.

GET IN TOUCH

For loads more hints and tips on gardening visit daviddomoney.com or follow me on Facebook at @DavidDomoneyTV or on Twitter @daviddomoney

Take a lead in your garden to make sure your dog can enjoy being outdoors with you this summer – and it really needn't end up looking ruff

Gardens and dogs don't always mix – although having the first is pretty much a necessity for keeping the second happy. Fortunately, there are some simple tricks to make your patch as mutt-friendly as possible.

Creating zones within your garden can be a great way to add intrigue for your dog at the same time as protecting plants.

If you have space, make a designated digging area with gravel or bark chippings and bury a bone, a favourite toy, or a few treats in this area.

This will encourage your dog to dig there, rather than maybe causing damage in other places.

Zone off borders by creating a barrier between them and dog-friendly spaces. Use edging panels to fence borders off, or put in raised beds to keep dogs off plants.

Enforce the boundary by removing your dog when they overstep the line.

If your pet is territorial, you might find he or she wants to patrol the perimeter of your fence.

To allow for this without damage to plants, make a designated dog path through your borders. Move vulnerable plants out of the way and

Water after your dog has and you fertilise the lawn

wind the path around more robust varieties.

Your dog can then use this path while on patrol, without doing any damage.

Lawn care

Dog paws can trample down tender grass and cause bald patches to appear in your lawn.

If you're re-laying or repairing the lawn, it's a good idea to choose hard-wearing lawn seed.

Mixes that contain species such as dwarf ryegrass will provide a full, thick turf. It will be more resistant to wear and tear and ideal for dog-friendly gardens.

Another possible lawn issue is the brown burn marks dogs sometimes leave on the grass when they urinate.

This is due to the high nitrogen content of dog urine.

Female dogs are often worse than males, because females tend to deposit urine in one place rather than spraying widely – making their urine more concentrated on the grass.

You can buy products to put in your dog's water, but I find a better approach is simply to keep your dog properly hydrated. This dilutes their



HIGH AND DRY
Raised beds will protect plants



DOG HOUSE
A kennel will give your dog his own space



urine and makes burn marks less likely.

Another good tip is to water the grass after your dog has made their contribution. Once the nitrogen is diluted, it will fertilise your lawn



ALL INCLUSIVE Susan, centre in pink, with the Glasgow group