

Perennials

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There are so many options for gardeners who have the time and the patience to perfect their gardens in the springtime. Many of us would love to have the talent necessary to create a lush getaway right in our yards. Professional and near professional understand their options, but there are options for those of us who are not quite so garden savvy. One of those options is using perennials to enhance the beauty of our landscape for our Beach House.

There are dozens of perennials from which to choose. Since I am particularly lazy, I love the idea of planting the shrubs once. Annuals require replanting each year. Perennials come back year after year. Most of them are become more and more attractive as the years go by.

I also like the idea of ease. Not all perennials are easy to plant and some are downright difficult to maintain. Who wants a temperamental plant returning over and over? Here are three perennials that are kind in returning year after year. These five are also kind in that they are easy to plant and easy to maintain.

Heuchera micrantha 'Palace purple' are also known by normal folks as coral bells. These plants are a deep burgundy plant that grows naturally throughout North America. This perennial stays low to the ground, so it is a great plant to use for accents. The leaves are shaped like hearts and the flower stalks boast little white flowers. The flowers bloom late in the spring. These perennials do require a good bit of sun, but other than that, they are very easy to maintain.

If you feel the urge to sew your oats, you can choose *Chasmanthium latifolium*. These perennials are known as wild oats and they are a grassy plant found in the eastern part of North America. I like this grassy perennial because it flourishes in sunny and shady areas. The grassy plant gives the yard life because it sways back-and-forth with the hint of a breeze in the air.

Macleaya Cordata, commonly known as plume poppy is a plant that has origins in China and Japan. This is one of the more exotic of the plants that stands a whopping eight feet high when fully grown. This is a great perennial to use to define a space in the yard or even to get a little privacy. During the summer it produces white flowers. A word of caution: These babies really grow and can get a little out of control, but they really flourish. This is of great appeal for someone like me who kills plants on a regular basis.