

NOVEMBER

Think spring! Now's the time to plant spring-blooming bulbs such as narcissus.

Tuck in cool-weather annuals. Brighten up your entryway with a swath of pansies. These cool-loving beauties will last well into the colder months.



Plant mums and flowering kale in containers. Add pretty pots of colorful mums and flowering kale. Accent the containers with home-grown gourds and pumpkins.

Plant bulbs for the holidays. If you love trumpet-shape amaryllis blooms for the holidays, pot up containers of these beauties now.

Adjust your watering schedule. Cooler temps mean your garden needs less water. Adjust your irrigation schedule.

Spruce up your landscape. November's cooler temperatures are ideal for planting camellias and azaleas.



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"In the garden, Autumn is, indeed the crowning glory of the year, bringing us the fruition of months of thought and care and toil. And at no season, save perhaps in Daffodil time, do we get such superb colour effects as from August to November."
- Rose G. Kingsley,
The Autumn Garden



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Autumn's Leaves

Autumn leaves are great to use in a variety of ways for your garden. If you live in an area that sheds a lot of leaves during the autumn season then there is a way to use all of those extra leaves for your garden instead of simply bagging them up and throwing them away. Instead of raking leaves and bagging them for garbage pickup, simply mow over excess leaves and allow them to mulch in your gardening area. These crunched up leaves will provide the necessary soil nutrients that your garden will need later on. You can also rake up leaves and store them for the spring time to make compost pile. Brown materials like fallen autumn leaves are rare to come by in the spring and will save your money so you won't have to buy brown materials from the store. You can simply store fallen leaves for the next season or pick up any excess leaves and add to any compost pile. Loose and dry leaves will make great brown material to make compost. Balance your leaves with green material like left over plant clippings and grass mulch.

There should always be a good balance of brown and green materials to prevent foul odors and to allow your compost to be loose and fertile. There should also not be any diseased plant material or any plants containing mold thrown in a compost pile. Mold and diseased plants will spread to any plant garden so be careful with the type of leaves that you throw in your compost pile. Make sure that leaves contain no tiny insects when adding to a compost pile. If you look close enough, there are tiny insects that reside on many leaves that like to feed on the foliage. This is evident by the tiny holes that are left in leaves. Check for any leaf holes or small insects before adding to your garden or compost pile. These insects could breed in any pile which could mean danger for your garden if you add compost piles containing an infestation of small insects.

You can also use leaves to make leaf mold which can be used to support the soil. You can use leaf mold to support soil health, and they are great for growing vegetable gardens. Just add leaf mold to any gardening area for about a year to add lushness to any soil bed. Leaves can also be used for mulch for extra plant nourishment and to prevent weeds from spreading.

For more info go to <http://compostguide.com/using-leaves-for-composting/>

