

FALL COLOR



10 Unique Shrubs for Fall Color (Zone: 7 – 10)

Kate Karam | October 4, 2017

It's true that in warmer zones fall is more of a state of mind than a celebration of fiery foliage. That said, you can have that cozy autumn feeling by planting a few shrubs that offer up a colorful autumn display.

We wanted to share a few favorites, each with something special to offer. All of these look great in spring and summer but with the bonus of that third fabulous season. Slip in a few of these now then for a big show next fall. Then get out and enjoy those last days in the garden before the rains come or the garden fades into a softer, more wintery palette.

(As zones often overlap, check out [this companion post](#) for even more great options.)

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Vaughn's Lillie Oak Leaf Hydrangea

You grew them for the famous late summer floral clusters, but check out the burgundy-red fall foliage and peeling reddish-brown bark that show up in fall. Partial sun. Up to 4 ft. tall and 5 ft. wide. Zone: 5 – 9



Natchez Crape Myrtle
Zone: 6 – 9



Scarletta® Fetterbush
Zone: 5 – 8



Popcorn Viburnum
Zone: 5 – 9

These late-summer treasures have one more act and it's a doozy- vibrant orange-red fall foliage. Ideal accent or group specimen. Full sun. Up to 20 ft. tall and wide.

This shade-loving smaller shrub turns reddish-bronze in fall. Lovely with azaleas, ferns, azaleas, or rhodies. Partial shade to filtered sun. Up to 2 ft. tall and 4 ft. wide.

This one's deeply veined foliage turns red to purple in fall. Appreciates afternoon shade in warmest zones. Partial to full sun. Up to 8 ft. tall and wide.



Bountiful Blue® Blueberry
Zone: 6 – 10

Blueberries just keeps on giving-spring flowers, summer berries, and deep red fall foliage. This one's low chill for warmer zones. Full sun. Up to 4 ft. tall and wide.

Plum Passion® Hydrangea
Zone: 7 – 10

Fall foliage develops golden topsides, while retaining its purple undersides. Use in shady borders. Partial shade to filtered sun. Up to 6 ft. tall and wide.

Purple Hopseed Bush
Zone: 8 – 11

Great evergreen screening plant for waterwise gardens. Excels with bronze-green foliage that turns deep purple-red in fall. Full sun. Up to 12 ft. tall and 8 ft.wide.



Emerald Sea Heavenly Bamboo
Zone: 6 – 11

We love this Nandina's emerald-green foliage that takes on a mysterious purple cast in fall. Works in dry shade. Partial to full sun. Up to 5 ft. tall and 3 ft. wide.

Dwarf Nikko Deutzia
Zone: 5 – 8

A stronger performer in a range of zones, this low grower blooms in spring, then displays a deep burgundy fall color. Partial to full sun. Up to 2 ft. tall and 5 ft. wide.

Himalayan Honeysuckle
Zone: 7 – 9

Versatile, heat tolerant, okay in moist soils. Chartreuse foliage turns to maroon highlights in fall, with berries to boot! Full sun. Up to 4 ft. tall and 3 ft. wide.

Related Plants



Natchez Crape Myrtle



Scarletta® Fetterbush



Popcorn Viburnum



Bountiful Blue®



Plum Passion®

Lagerstroemia indica x fauriei
'Natchez'
Item #0899
Showy Summer Flowers

Leucothoe fontanesiana 'Zebloid'
Item #4438
Dramatic Foliage Color

Viburnum plicatum f. plicatum
'Popcorn'
Item #40720
Showy Flowering Shrub

Blueberry
Vaccinium corymbosum 'FLX-2'
Plant Patent #19,381
Item #5623
Abundant Summer Berries

Improved Hydrangea
Hydrangea aspera 'Monpusel'
Plant Patent Applied For
Item #9655
Dramatic Foliage Color



Purple Hopseed Bush

Dodonaea viscosa 'Purpurea'
Item #3165
Dramatic Foliage Color



Emerald Sea Heavenly Bamboo

Nandina domestica 'Emerald Sea'
Item #8162
Year-Round Interest



Dwarf Nikko Deutzia

Deutzia gracilis 'Nikko'
Item #3157
Showy Spring Flowers



Himalayan Honeysuckle

Leycesteria formosa 'Jealousy'
Item #31197
Dramatic Foliage Color

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