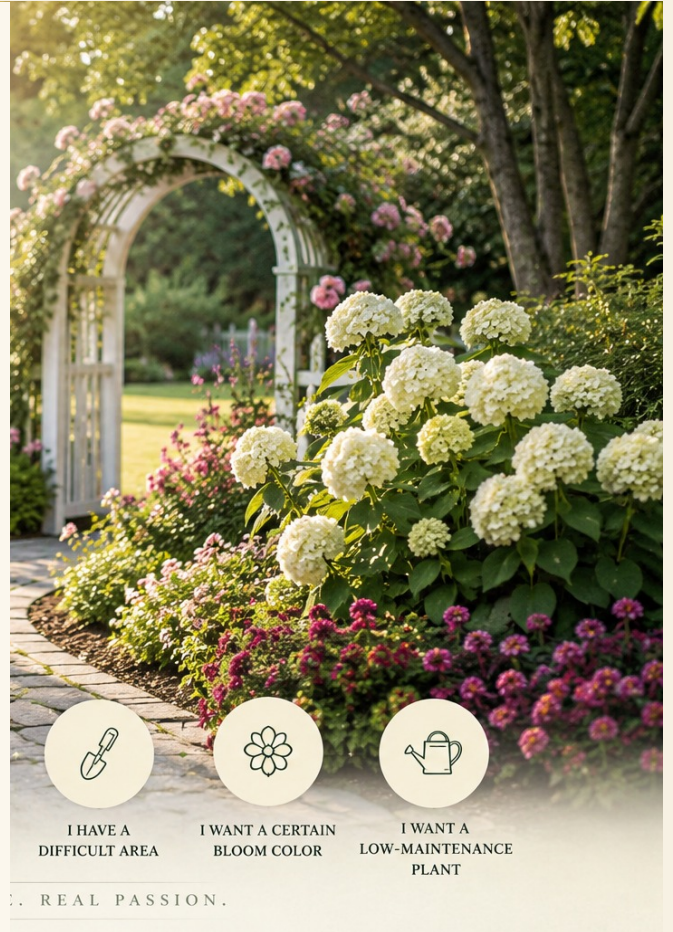


I Need a Plant for Part Shade

A Southern Garden Guide

Beautiful choices for morning sun, filtered light, and protection from the hottest afternoon sun.



Part Shade Can Be a Great Planting Spot

Part shade does not mean no sun. In Southern yards, it often means a spot that receives morning sun, filtered light, or a few hours of direct light before the hottest part of the day. These conditions can be especially helpful for hydrangeas and other plants that struggle in intense afternoon heat.

A part-shade spot may receive:

- Morning sun with afternoon shade
- Filtered sunlight through trees
- Three to six hours of direct sun
- Bright light without strong midday heat

Best Part-Shade Plants From Our Nursery

Start with the amount of light, then compare mature size and care needs.

Hydrangeas

Best with morning sun and afternoon shade in hot Southern summers.

- Endless Summer Hydrangea
- Nikko Blue Hydrangea
- Big Daddy Hydrangea
- Summer Crush Hydrangea
- Annabelle Hydrangea
- Oakleaf Hydrangea

Shrubs and Small Trees

Good options for filtered light, woodland edges, or protected garden beds.

- Japanese Snowball
- Chinese Snowball Bush
- Dappled Willow
- Jane Magnolia
- Pink Lemonade Blueberry
- Red Twig Dogwood

Perennials and Foliage

Some tolerate more sun, but can also perform well with bright part shade.

- Hosta
- Bee Balm
- Purple Coneflower
- Black-eyed Susan
- Blazing Star

Compact Choices

Useful near foundations, walkways, patios, and smaller beds.

- Bobo Hydrangea
- Little Lime Hydrangea
- Fire Light Tidbit Hydrangea
- Sweet Starlight Hydrangea
- Summer Crush Hydrangea

Watch the hottest part of the day

A plant may tolerate several hours of morning sun but wilt or scorch in the same number of afternoon-sun hours. Southern exposure matters as much as the total number of hours.

Choose by What You Want the Plant to Do

Use the yard goal to narrow the list before you buy.

For Big, Showy Blooms

Choose these when flowers are the main attraction.

- Endless Summer Hydrangea
- Nikko Blue Hydrangea
- Big Daddy Hydrangea
- Annabelle Hydrangea
- Chinese Snowball Bush

For Fall Interest

Look for foliage color, bark, stems, or blooms that age beautifully.

- Oakleaf Hydrangea
- Ruby Slippers Oakleaf
- Pink Gatsby Oakleaf
- Dappled Willow
- Red Twig Dogwood

For Pollinators

Bright part shade can still support useful pollinator plants.

- Bee Balm
- Purple Coneflower
- Black-eyed Susan
- Blazing Star
- Rose of Sharon

For Small Spaces

Check mature width before planting near windows or paths.

- Summer Crush Hydrangea
- Bobo Hydrangea
- Fire Light Tidbit Hydrangea
- Sweet Starlight Hydrangea
- Little Lime Hydrangea

Helpful reminder

Hydrangeas grown in too much shade may produce fewer blooms. The goal is usually bright light or morning sun - not deep, all-day darkness.

Before You Plant

A few checks now can prevent years of frustration later.

1

Track the sunlight

Check the location at 9 a.m., noon, 3 p.m., and 6 p.m. Note when direct sun reaches the bed.

2

Measure the space

Use the plant's mature width, not the size of the nursery pot, when planning spacing.

3

Check the soil

Most of these plants prefer soil that drains well but does not stay bone-dry during summer.

4

Plan for watering

New plants need consistent moisture while roots establish, especially during hot Georgia weather.

5

Match pruning time

Hydrangeas do not all prune the same way. Identify whether your variety blooms on old wood or new wood.

Still deciding? Search the Plant Directory at ourplantfarm.com

Contact Bobby & Lynn's Plant Farm for current availability.