

Plant Shopping Checklist

A fillable guide for choosing healthy plants that fit your yard.

Use this checklist before and during a nursery trip. Fill in your notes, check off what you have done, and save or print a copy for your garden records.

Before You Go

- ☐ Know your space: sun, shade, size, and drainage.
- ☐ Check your USDA hardiness zone.
- ☐ Make a list of plants you are interested in.
- ☐ Measure the planting area before you shop.
- ☐ Research mature height and width.
- ☐ Consider soil type and moisture.
- ☐ Bring photos of your yard.
- ☐ Set a budget before you buy.

Plants I am looking for:

Budget:

Hardiness zone:

Planting space size:

Sun, shade, soil, and watering notes:

Phone tip: If this opens in your browser, tap Share and choose Open in Adobe Acrobat or Save to Files. Mobile browser previews may not save typed answers.

At the Nursery

Use these reminders while you shop.

Smart Shopping Reminders

- ☐ Choose a reputable nursery with healthy plants.
- ☐ Ask questions if you are unsure.
- ☐ Check the plant label for light, size, and care needs.
- ☐ Consider how the plant will fit your space when mature.
- ☐ Look for plants suited to Southern heat and humidity.
- ☐ Buy the best quality plant you can find.

Plant name or variety:

Price:

Pot size:

Important details from the plant tag:

Questions to Ask

- ☐ How much sun does this plant need?
- ☐ How big will it get?
- ☐ How fast does it grow?
- ☐ How much water does it need?

Answers or extra questions:

Healthy Plant Check

Look over the plant before it goes in your cart.

Foliage

- ☐ Leaves are green and vibrant for the season.
- ☐ No yellowing, spotted, or damaged leaves.
- ☐ Undersides of leaves look clean with no obvious pests.

Stems and Branches

- ☐ Stems are firm and flexible, not brittle or broken.
- ☐ No large amount of dead or bare branches.
- ☐ Plant has good branching close to the base.

Roots

- ☐ Roots are not circling heavily out of the pot.
- ☐ Roots are not growing far out of drainage holes.
- ☐ Visible roots look white or light tan, not dark or mushy.

Overall Appearance

- ☐ Plant is well-shaped and proportionate.
- ☐ Plant is not overgrown or badly leggy.
- ☐ No obvious signs of pests or disease.
- ☐ Plant looks healthy and well cared for.

Plant health notes:

Compare Your Favorites

Use this page to compare up to three plants before you decide.

Plant Option 1

Plant name:

Sun needs:

Price:

Mature size:

Water needs:

☐ Fits my space

Notes:

Plant Option 2

Plant name:

Sun needs:

Price:

Mature size:

Water needs:

☐ Fits my space

Notes:

Plant Option 3

Plant name:

Sun needs:

Price:

Mature size:

Water needs:

☐ Fits my space

Notes:

Before You Check Out

Final reminders and planting notes.

Final Checklist

- ☐ Water the plant if it is dry.
- ☐ Make sure the soil is moist, not bone dry.
- ☐ Secure the plant for transport.
- ☐ Keep plants shaded and protected until planting.
- ☐ Plan to plant as soon as possible.
- ☐ Save the plant tag and receipt.

Plants purchased:

What I need to do when I get home:

Garden notes:

For educational use. Always verify plant details on the plant tag or care guide.

Bobby & Lynn's Plant Farm - ourplantfarm.com