

Perennial Pruning Techniques

Sorted Alphabetically

Plant Name	Notes	Mid May	Late May	Early June	Mid June
Achillea millefolium, Yarrow	<i>Cut back one-half to one third in early June</i>			X	
Aconitum nepellus, Monkshood	<i>When 18" cut back by one-half, leave some terminal spikes un-pruned</i>				
Alcea Rosea, Hollyhock	<i>Tall growing varieties can be cut by half several times to delay bloom</i>				
Anthemis tinctoria, Marguerite	<i>Prune off 6" in May and then again in mid June. Later cut back some to stagger</i>	X			X
Artemisia, Dusty Miller	<i>Silver King can be sheared to one half in the end of May</i>		X		
Aster (Taller varieties)	<i>When 12-24" pinch back several times during June</i>				X
Dentranthema, Mums	<i>Cut back by one half mid June</i>				X
Echinacea purpurea, Coneflower	<i>When about 2½ ft tall cut some by one-half to stagger</i>				
Gaura lindheimeri, Wandflower	<i>Cut back by one-half by mid June</i>				X
Helenium autumnale, Sneezeweed	<i>By mid June cut back one-third to one-half</i>				X
Heliopsis helianthoides Perennial Sunflower	<i>3 foot plant can be cut by one-half</i>				
Hibiscus moscheutos	<i>Cut back by one-half when about 16" tall - may not be until mid to late July!</i>				
Linum perenne Flax	<i>Shear by one-half in mid May produce fuller plants</i>	X			
Lobelia cardinalis/siphilitica	<i>Pinch in May</i>	X			
Lychnis coronaria, Catchfly	<i>Cut by one-half when 15" tall</i>				
Macleaya cordata, Plume Poppy	<i>Can be staggered in late May by cutting the edge by one-half</i>		X		
Malva alcea "Fastigata", Mallow	<i>Pinch in mid May, then cut back 6" by mid June</i>	X			X
Monarda didyma, Beebalm	<i>Cut when 12" high and again later around the edge to stagger bloom</i>			X	
Phlox maculate, Garden Phlox	<i>Early June cut back and shape by one-half</i>	X			
Phlox paniculat, Garden Phlox	<i>Mid May cut back and shape by one-half, arendsii cut by 1/3 early</i>	X			
Physostegia virginiana. Obedient plant	<i>Cut by one-half in May to prevent flopping</i>	X			
Platycodon grandiflorus, Balloon flower	<i>Cut back by one-half in early June</i>			X	
Rudbeckia, Coneflower	<i>Can be pinched back in May</i>	X			
Sanguisorba obtusa, Japanese Burnet	<i>Cut back by half in May</i>	X			
Tanacetum coccineum, Painted Daisy	<i>Pinch when about 6"</i>	X			
Tradescantia x andersoniana, Spiderwort	<i>Cut back by one-half when 12" tall</i>				
Veronica spicata, Speedwell	<i>Cut back by 6" in early to mid June</i>			X	
Veronscastrum virginicum, Culvert's Root	<i>Cut back front (shape) by one-half in early May</i>	X			

Remember this is just a guideline. Pruning times depend greatly on your specific area or the specific year.

Perennials Pruning Techniques

Sorted by Month

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Tanacetum coccineum, Painted Daisy	<i>Pinch when about 6"</i>	X			
Veronicastrum virginicum, Culvert's Root	<i>Cut back front (shape) by one-half in early May</i>	X			
Artemisia, Dusty Miller	<i>Silver King can be sheared to one half in the end of May</i>		X		
Macleaya cordata, Plume Poppy	<i>Can be staggered in late May by cutting the edge by one-half</i>		X		
Achillea millefolium, Yarrow	<i>Cut back one-half to one third in early June</i>			X	
Monarda didyma, Beebalm	<i>Cut when 12" high and again later around the edge to stagger bloom</i>			X	
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