

DIVIDING PERENNIALS

Most perennials benefit from being divided every few years. Perennials have different rates of growth. Vigorous varieties will need to be divided more often than those that have a slower growth rate. Whenever the perennials start dying out in the center, or flowering decreases, it is probably time to divide.

Timing is very important. For best results, use the following guidelines of when to divide your particular perennial.

Spring flowering plants should be divided in very late summer to early fall. They need time to establish roots before the rigors of winter. Mulch will help protect the newly established plants.

Aubrietia	Iberis	Delphinium	Lily-of-the-Valley
Brunnera	Ferns	Peony	Goutweed
Campanula	Geum	Viola	Columbine
Globe-thistle	Yucca	Daylily (or Spring)	
Heuchera			

Summer and fall flowering plants should be divided in the early spring before the new growth is more than two to three inches tall.

Achillea(Yarrow)	Coreopsis	Monarda (Bee-Balm)
Ajuga	Daylily	Monkshood
Anemone	Gaillardia	Oenothera
Artemisia	Helianthus	Phlox
Aster (hardy)	Heuchera	Physostegia
Astilbe	Hosta	Rudbeckia
Bergenia	Liatris	Sedums
Chrysanthemum	Lobelia	Veronicas
Coneflower	Mallow	

Exceptions

Soon after flowering:

Armeria	Iris
English Daisy	Primula
Snow-in-Summer	Trolliu
Doronicum	

Mid-Summer dormant period:

Oriental Poppy

Steps to Dividing

Dig up the clump to be divided. Be sure to follow the general guidelines on the proper time to divide.

Divide the clump into sections using a sharp knife or sharp spade.

Discard the older middle section if it appears less vigorous.

Replenish the soil with mushroom compost or shagnum peat moss, and a top-dressing of manure or fertilizer.

Replant sections of 5-6 shoots each.

Water-in immediately with a Root Stimulator solution.