

Perennial

DIVIDING

Perennials should be divided when they are growing strongly and look healthy. Dividing a perennial when it is not going well will result in poor establishment. Also, some perennials will start to die out in the center of the mass. This is a sure sign it is time to divide.



WHEN CAN YOU DIVIDE PERENNIALS?

Most perennials can be divided in fall or spring. Mid-September is a wonderful time to divide. The soil is still warm enough for the roots to start re growing, thus giving the plant a great start in spring. Some plants such as Bleeding Hearts, Primroses, Anemone, and Monkshood prefer to be divided in spring. It is best to divide your perennials on a cool day. This will prevent the roots from drying out. If you cannot put the plants back in the soil right away it is a good idea to cover the roots with a bit of soil or wet newspaper.

HOW TO DIVIDE PERENNIALS

- Dig out the perennial using a spade. Dig at the plants Drip line (Where the leaves end)
- Clean off the larger chunks of soil, looking for insects and signs of disease.
- Using a sharp knife (an old steak knife works great) cut the perennials into several divisions. Each new plant should contain two to four eyes (new buds). This will give you a nice size plant in the spring.
- Now replant the new sections. Adding some organic matter such as worm castings around the new plants is an excellent idea. Myke in the planting hole will also give the roots a great start.
- Water the plants thoroughly once planted.

DIVIDE IN THE FALL ONLY

- Sweet woodruff (*Galium odoratum*)
- Siberian Iris (*Iris siberica*)
- Irises (*Irisspp.*)
- Poppies (*Papaverspp.*)
- Peonies (*Paeoniacvs.*)
- Moss pink (*Phlox subulata*)

DIVIDE IN THE SPRING ONLY

- Monkshood (*Aconitum napellus*)
- Anemone (*Anemone × hybrida*)
- Asters (*Asterspp.*)
- Bleeding hearts (*Dicentraspp.*)
- Primroses (*Primulaspp.*)

DIVIDE IN THE SPRING OR FALL

- Bugleweed (*Ajuga reptans*)
- Daylilies (*Hemerocallispp.*)
- Columbines (*Aquilegiaspp.*)
- Coral bells (*Heucheraspp.*)
- Lady's mantle (*Alchemilla mollis*)
- Hostas (*Hostaspp.*)
- Pussytoes (*Antennaria dioica*)
- Deadnettle (*Lamium maculatum*)
- Sea thrift (*Armeria maritima*)
- Creeping Jenny (*Lysimachia nummularia*)
- Yarrow (*Achillea millefolium*)
- Daisy (*Leucanthemum × superbum*)
- Yarrow (*Achillea filipendulina*)
- Ligularia (*Ligularia dentata*)
- Amsonias (*Amsoniaspp.*)
- Gayfeather (*Liatris spicata*)
- Astilbes (*Astilbespp.*)
- Lilyturf (*Liriope spicata*)
- Goatsbeard (*Aruncus dioicus*)
- Lemon Balm (*melissa officinalis*)
- Bergenia (*Bergenia cordifolia*)



- Bee balm (*Monarda didyma*)
- Wild indigo (*Baptisia australis*)
- Forget-me-not (*Myosotis sylvatica*)
- Lily-of-the-valley (*Convallaria majalis*)
- Catmint (*Nepeta × faassenii*)
- Bellflowers (*Campanulaspp.*)
- Jacob's ladder (*Polemonium caeruleum*)
- Snakeroot (*Cimicifuga racemosa*)
- Pulmonarias (*Pulmonariaspp.*)
- Tickseed (*Coreopsis verticillata*)
- Garden phlox (*Phlox paniculata*)
- Turtlehead (*Chelone glabra*)
- Solomon's seal (*Polygonatum odoratum*)
- Pinks (*Dianthus plumarius*)
- Rodgersia (*Rodgersia pinnata*)
- Coneflower (*Echinacea purpurea*)
- Black-eyed Susans (*Rudbeckiaspp.*)
- Joe Pye weed (*Eupatorium maculatum*)
- Lamb's ears (*Stachys byzantina*)
- Spurge (*Euphorbia griffithii*)
- Goldenrods (*Solidagospp.*)
- Meadowsweets (*Filipendulaspp.*)
- Stonecrop (*Sedum spectabile*)
- Cranesbills (*Geraniumspp.*)
- Speedwell (*Veronica spicata*)
- Blanket flowers (*Gaillardiaspp.*)
- Violets, pansies (*Violaspp.*)
- Male fern (*Dryopteris filix-mas*)
- Big bluestem grass (*Andropogon gerardii*)
- Lady fern (*Athyrium filix-femina*)
- Karl Foerster or Overdam Grasses (*Calamagrostis*)
- Japanese painted fern (*Athyrium niponicum'Pictum'*)
- Silver grasses (*Miscanthusspp.*)
- Native Fern Switch grass (*Panicum virgatum*)

