

Add Some Sizzle To Your Summer 'Scape

By Donna Fossum, Garden Style San Antonio



Scorching hot days are looming, but that doesn't mean your landscape has to fry. Now's the time to perk it up with some heat-hardy plants!

Here are some examples of warm season annuals that are easy to grow and don't take a lot of water to keep them happy!

Marigold – These showy annuals thrive in hot weather and bright sun. Deadhead fading flowers and gangly stems to keep them blooming all summer long.

Pentas – Butterflies and hummingbirds love feasting on the clusters of tiny flowers. Pentas also thrive in container gardens, as they love well-drained soil.

Periwinkle – This popular shade-loving flower, also known as vinca, can be found in a rainbow of colors. It's also highly drought-tolerant and pest-resistant.

Portulaca – Sometimes called sun rose or moss rose, portulaca thrives in full sun and is exceptionally easy to grow, even for beginners.

Purslane – This low-growing annual scoffs at dry, hot South Texas summers. Originally from India and Persia, purslane also looks striking in a hanging basket.