

Care

Most need full sun but some will cope with partial shade. Cut down non-evergreen species in early spring.

Drought Tolerant

- Calamagrostis x acutiflora, 'Karl Foerster'
- Festuca glauca, 'Golden Toupee', 'Elijah Blue'
- Helictotrichon sempervirens
- Koeleria glauca
- Leymus arenarius
- Miscanthus sinensis, all varieties
- Panicum virgatum, all varieties

Moisture Tolerant

- Acorus, all varieties
- Carex, most varieties
- Deschampsia, all varieties
- Luzula, all varieties
- Miscanthus sinensis, all varieties

Shade Tolerant

- Calamagrostis brachytricha
- Carex, most varieties
- Hakonechloa macra, all varieties
- Luzula, all varieties
- Molinia, most varieties

Evergreen

- Acorus, all varieties
- Carex, most varieties
- Cortaderia, all varieties
- Deschampsia, all varieties
- Festuca, most varieties
- Helictotrichon sempervirens
- Luzula, all varieties

- Ophiopogon planiscarpus, 'Nigrescens'
- Stipa gigantea

Spring Flowering

- Briza media
- Carex pendula
- Deschampsia cespitosa
- Festuca, all varieties
- Helictotrichon sempervirens
- Koeleria glauca
- Luzula all varieties
- Stipa gigantea

Summer Flowering

- Calamagrostis x acutiflora 'Karl Foerster'
- Cortaderia selloana, all varieties
- Miscanthus, all varieties
- Molina, all varieties
- Pennisetum, all varieties
- Spodiopogon sibiricus

If you require any further information, please ask our outdoor plant advisors who will be very happy to help.

Opening Times

Monday – Saturday: 9am – 6pm
Sunday: 9.30am – 4pm

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Chessington

Ornamental Grasses



Care & Advice Sheet

No. 7

Inspiration for your Home & Garden

Ornamental grasses are grown for their architectural shape, texture and colour. They can add height to many garden situations and many can be used as an airy screen. Their flower spikes provide interest and movement giving a sense of delicate lightness.

Grasses can be used in drifts in a prairie garden, as individual statements in smaller borders and can be very useful as ground cover.

Popular Varieties

Species	Description	Height
Acorus gramineus 'Ogon' 'Variegatus'	Semi-evergreen, neatly striped stiff leaves.	25cm
Anemanthele lessoniana (syn. <i>Stipa arundinacea</i>)	Tufted and fluffy with striking orange/brown leaves in summer.	1m
Briza media 'Russells'	Blue/green quaking grass, erect flower spikes.	20cm
Calamagrostis x acutiflora 'Overdam'	Upright branched flower spikes, yellow margins.	1.2m
Calamagrostis x acutiflora 'Karl Foerster'	Pink/bronze upright flower spikes.	1.8m
Carex buchananii	Evergreen, orange – brown leaves with curled tips.	75cm
Carex comans 'Frosted Curls'	Arching with narrow pale silvery leaves.	60cm

Species	Description	Height
Carex conica 'Snowline'	Evergreen, glossy dark green striped leaves.	15cm
Carex morrowii 'Fishers Form'	Evergreen, broad glossy cream striped leaves.	50cm
Carex oshminensis 'Evergold'	Evergreen, dark green leaves yellow stripe.	30cm
Cortaderia selloana	Pampas grass, tall stout flower plumes.	2.5m
Deschampsia cespitosa	Fine thread-like leaves, arching flower spikes.	2m
Deschampsia flexuosa 'Tatra Gold'	Arching bright yellow thin leaves, bronze spikes.	50cm
Festuca glauca 'Blue Fox'	Small tufted grass with thin blue-grey leaves.	30cm
Festuca glauca 'Golden Toupee'	Compact with bright green needle like leaves.	30cm
Hakonecloa macra 'Aureola'	Arching with bright yellow ribbon-like leaves	35cm
Helictotrichon sempervirens	Evergreen steel blue leaves, stiff flower spikes.	1.4m
Imperata cylindrica 'Red Baron'	Flat green and red leaves, silver-white spikes.	40cm
Luzula sylvatica	Evergreen, leaves fringed with white hairs.	70cm

Species	Description	Height
Miscanthus sinensis 'Gracillimus'	Architectural, blue-green leaves white stripe.	1.3m
Miscanthus sinensis 'Malepartus'	Feathery reddish-brown silky flower spikes.	2.2m
Miscanthus sinensis 'Zebrinus'	Pale yellow horizontal bands on green leaves.	1.2m
Ophiopogon planiscarpus 'Nigrescens'	Small almost black-purple leaves, white flowers.	20cm
Panicum virgatum 'Heavy Metal'	Upright purple stems and metallic blue leaves.	1m
Pennisetum alopecuroides 'Hameln'	Evergreen, flat green leaves, airy flower spikes.	1.5m
Stipa gigantea	Tall semi-evergreen architectural golden oat.	2.5m
Uncinia rubra	Evergreen, low growing red-brown glossy leaves.	30cm