



# Plants for Shady Spots

Compiled by The Theodore Payne Foundation for Wildflowers and Native Plants, Inc.  
10459 Tuxford Street, Sun Valley, CA 91352 Phone: (818) 768-1802 <http://www.theodorepayne.org>

KEYS TO FLOWER COLOR:	<b>B</b>	blue	<b>R</b>	red
	<b>G</b>	green	<b>V</b>	violet/purple
	<b>O</b>	orange	<b>W</b>	white
	<b>P</b>	pink	<b>Y</b>	yellow

## **PARTIAL SHADE: eastern exposure; dappled sun; under deciduous shrubs or trees**

### **PERENNIALS (a sampling of a very wide selection):**

*Epilobium canum latifolia* 'Alba' W – white-flowered California Fuchsia  
*Erysimum capitatum*, Wallflower O – butterfly-attracting orange flowers; reseeds easily  
*Iris douglasiana* and hybrids, Douglas Iris V/W/Y – an attention-grabber; spreads to form small colony  
*Mimulus guttatus*, Yellow Creek Monkey Flower Y – water-loving, bright yellow flowers with red dots

### **SHRUBS:**

*Arctostaphylos* spp., Manzanita Groundcovers, especially *Arctostaphylos* x 'Emerald Carpet'  
*Calycanthus occidentalis*, Spice Bush R – lotus-shaped, deep red flowers; leaves smell like old wine barrel  
*Ceanothus* spp., California Lilac B/V/W, especially groundcovers such as *C. maritimus* and *C. hearstiorum*  
*Cephalanthus occidentalis*, Button Willow W – pretty background shrub for moist areas or garden bed  
*Crataegus douglasii*, Hawthorn W – ornamental flowers, plus bird-attracting berries; prune to shape  
*Galvezia juncea* and *G. speciosa*, Snapdragon R – great for hummingbirds; use as shrub or to cover trellis  
*Heteromeles arbutifolia*, Toyon W – outstanding bird plant; can be grown as bush, hedge or tree  
*Lavatera assurgentiflora*, Tree Mallow P/V – fast-growing and beautiful; protect from gophers  
*Lonicera subspicata johnstonii*, Chaparral Honeysuckle W – lovely arching stems; evergreen  
*Rosa californica*, Wild Rose P – fragrant flowers and bright red hips; forms thicket along streams, moist areas

## **PARTIAL TO FULL SHADE: northern exposure; winter sun only; under evergreen shrubs or trees**

### **PERENNIALS:**

*Aquilegia formosa* and hybrids, Scarlet Columbine R – beautiful, delicate flowers on long stalks  
*Boykinia rotundifolia*, Brook Saxifrage W – delicate riparian plant, good in moist spot or woodland garden  
*Fragaria californica*, Wood Strawberry W – pretty white flowers and small tasty berries; spreads with water  
*Heuchera* spp., Coral bells, Alum-Root P, R, W – easy to grow; tolerates water or drought  
*Lobelia dunnii serrata*, Blue Lobelia B – low creeping plant with attractive flowers; likes moisture  
*Mimulus cardinalis*, Scarlet Monkey Flower O, R, Y, W – very shade-tolerant; bright hummingbird flowers  
*Phacelia bolanderi*, Bolander's Phacelia B, V – lovely blue flowers show up well in shade; protect from snails  
*Salvia spathacea*, Hummingbird sage R – low-growing fragrant rosettes, plus amazing red flower spikes in spring  
*Ribes viburnifolium*, Evergreen or Catalina Currant R – fragrant leaves; interesting vining habit  
*Scutellaria austinae*, Austin's Skullcap B – intense blue flowers on a low, creeping plant; deciduous  
*Symphoricarpos mollis*, Creeping Snowberry P – ferny leaves and white berries on a drought-tolerant plant

### **SHRUBS:**

*Acer* spp., Maple – fast-growing large shrubs or small trees; grow more upright with more sun  
*Carpenteria californica*, Bush Anemone W – evergreen shrub covered with white flowers in spring  
*Cornus* spp., Dogwood W – ornamental white flowers; reddish branches are striking in winter  
*Euonymus occidentalis*, Burning Bush R – unusual dotted flower on an easy-to-grow shrub; give water  
*Lonicera involucrata*, Twinberry Honeysuckle and *L. subspicata johnstonii*, Chaparral Honeysuckle  
*Ribes sanguineum glutinosum*, Pink-Flowered Currant and *Ribes speciosum*, Fuchsia-Flowered Gooseberry