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EC65-1208 Vines and Ground Cover

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This list of vines and ground covers has been prepared to help you select kinds of ornamentals that are reasonably certain to succeed in your area. The regions for which they are recommended are given with each kind. The extent of each region is shown on the map on the last page.

Although many plants may be found growing outside their recommended areas, their success in such places is generally due to exceptionally favorable sites or superior care.

The average grower should confine his main plantings to species that are known to be adapted. It is always interesting to try new things, but try new plants in a small way and expect the worst until they prove themselves to be adapted. Many of the plants listed require good care, including supplemental water, in order to thrive.

The zones shown on the map indicate large areas in which certain groups of trees and shrubs may be planted with reasonable assurance of success. These large zones differ in temperature, rainfall, elevation, or soil type. Within all zones there are small local areas where environmental conditions may be more severe or more favorable than average. These small areas may differ from their surrounding zones in soil type, fertility, moisture supply or exposure.

Vines are grown for beautiful flowers, fruit, or foliage; arbors, screens for privacy, ground covers, and for shade and appearance on houses.
Species | Recommended for regions
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**Ajuga** (*Ajuga reptans*) | 1, 2, 3, 4, 5
Carpet Bugle | 
Will quickly cover ground in almost full shade. Aggressive creeping perennial to one foot. Blue violet flowers in spring. White and pink-flowered forms available. Also varieties with unusually colored foliage.

**Baltic Ivy** (*Hedera helix baltica*) | 1, 3
Clings to masonry. May sunscald if planted on the south side of a house.

**Beta Grape** (*Vitis* species) | 1, 2, 3, 4, 5
Excellent for covering trellis. Fruit good, but smaller than most other cultivated grapes.

**Bittersweet** (*Celastrus scandens*) | 1, 2, 3, 4, 5
Twining vine, bright red berries with orange husks in the fall.

**Boston Ivy** (*Ampelopsis veitchi*) | 1, 2
Rapid growing, clings to any surface.
Clematis paniculata \(1,2,3,4,5\)
(Sweetautumn clematis)
Great profusion of small, white, fragrant flowers in autumn. Support on trellis.

Clematis, large flowered \(1,2,3,4,5\)
(Clematis species)
Large, lovely colored blossoms according to variety. Blooms mostly in the summer. Support on trellis.

Engelmann Ivy (Ampelopsis \(1,2,3,4,5\) engelmannii)
Vigorous, clinging vine. Brilliant fall color.

Euonymus

E. coloratus (Purpleleaf \(1,2,3\) Wintercreeper) 3 feet
Foliage green in summer, changing to blood-red in winter in the sun.

E. Radicans (Common \(1\) wintercreeper)
Evergreen clinging vine with ornamental rose-red berries.
E. radicans vegetus 1
(Bigleaf wintercreeper)

Variety of preceding species, larger leaves. Slow growth keeps it from being a nuisance by growing over windows, doors, etc.

Halls Honeysuckle 1,2,3,4,5
(Lonicera halliana)

Rapid growth, fragrant bloom all summer. Good for covering a porch, or ground cover for steep banks.

Scarlet Trumpet Honeysuckle 1,2,3,4,5
(Lonicera sempervirens)

Half climbing shrub, dark green foliage and orange-scarlet, tubular flowers.

Silver Lace Fine 1,2,3,4,5
(Polygonum auberti)

Fast growing, twining vine. Light green leaves and fleecy white flowers.

Trumpet Vine 1,2,3,4,5
(Bignonia radicans)

Strong growing, twining vine found principally on fences. Large, orange-red trumpet-shaped flowers.
Pachysandra

Perennial to one foot, spreading by runners. Thick glossy olive green foliage overlapping for complete cover. Prefers acid soil, but grows on alkaline. Part or full shade.

Vinca Minor (Periwinkle) (Running Myrtle)

Prostrate evergreen creeper with glossy dark green leaves, rooting as it runs. Five petaled flowers of clear lavender-blue in May and June. Also white and pink-flowered varieties. Excellent ground-cover in shade or sun.

Virginia Creeper (Ampelopsis quinquefolia)

Clinging vine, very hardy. Leaves beautiful red in autumn. Also called woodbine.

Wisteria (Wisteria species and varieties)

Long clusters of lilac purple, white or pink flowers in early summer. Used mainly on arbors and trellises. Flowerbuds may winterkill.