

# Flowering plants for window boxes

---

## Sustrans Community Toolkit

No matter how little space you have, there is always room to do something. In fact, the smaller the space you have, the more creative you might be, and the easier it is to look after! Scent, colour and structure can all be achieved, and efforts you make will be appreciated by neighbours and passers-by, so you'll help to brighten up people's day.

As well as helping brighten up your street, improving front gardens are a brilliant way of creating space for nature in our streets, whether it's nectar for bees and other insects, berries and fruits for birds, or valuable shelter and nesting spaces for all kinds of creatures. Who knows what wildlife you might invite into your garden with a bit of encouragement!

Some flowering plants which work well in window boxes are:

- Bell-flower (Campanula) especially the trailing varieties
- Geraniums
- Lobelia
- Ivy
- Crocus
- Daffodil (the smaller varieties such as Tete-a-tete are best if your window box isn't big)
- Violas (some are scented and flower in winter)
- Stocks (some are scented and there are some good winter varieties)
- Pansies (also can be good for winter)
- Snowdrops (winter)
- Primrose (winter)
- Cyclamen (winter)
- Polyanthus (winter)

Some ideas for herbs for window boxes, most of which also produce beautiful flowers, some of which are edible:

- Thyme (there are lots of lovely scented species including lemon thyme)
- Chives (edible flowers)
- Basil
- Coriander
- Parsley

- Sage
- Mint (loves to spread so pick regularly!)
- Rosemary (can get quite big if given space so remove the tops when they get too tall)
- Lemon balm
- Borage

---

Sustrans is the charity making it easier for people to walk and cycle. We connect people and places, create liveable neighbourhoods, transform the school run and deliver a happier, healthier commute.

**Join us on our journey. [www.sustrans.org.uk](http://www.sustrans.org.uk)**

© Sustrans July 2018  
Registered Charity No. 326550 (England and Wales) SC039263 (Scotland)  
VAT Registration No. 416740656