

## Plant a Front Garden

You can help bees by planting flowers in even the smallest spaces. Different flowers attract different kinds of bees – and some are better than others. A corridor of front gardens planted with the right kind of flowers provides nectar and pollen for bee populations to flourish.

Time: research 2 hrs; plant 2 hrs. *Kate Poland, E5 Postcode Gardener*



Daubeney Road Front Garden

## Before you plant for bees

- ① Look through the list of best bee plants below, drawn from scientific research.
- ② Find out what the plants look like, when they flower and if they come back each year.
- ④ Note the plants you like and find out whether they will have the right conditions to grow well in. Is your planting spot sunny or shady, wet or dry, sheltered or exposed? Does it face north, south, east or west? Are you planting in the ground or in a container?
- ⑤ Choose your seeds or plants and find out the best time of year to put them in.
- ⑥ Buy seeds or plants online or at a garden centre or get them free from a friend.

## What you need

- ☼ Containers with drainage holes, if using
- ☼ Peat-free compost for pots & mulching
- ☼ Garden fork, trowel/spade and sieve
- ☼ Watering can and water

## How to plant

- ① Clear space for plants to spread and get light
- ② Loosen and sieve compacted soil
- ③ Sow seeds or water-in plants as instructed
- ④ Water until plants establish and when dry
- ⑤ Thin or cut after flowering as advised



Adley Road Front Garden



## Best plants for bees

**Honey bees:** Lesser calamint, sneezeweed, geranium, borage, origano, culver's root, stonecrop, greater knapweed, Iranian germander, New York asters.

**Bumblebees:** Lavender, viper's bugloss, lamb's ear, spiked speedwell, catmint, lobelia, hysopp, devil's bit scabious, marigold, foxglove, hedge woundwort.

**Solitary bees:** Black-eyed Susan, salvia, chicory, anthemis, harebell, campanula.