

2 What's best to plant?



Factsheet 2: What's best to plant?

Deciding what to plant in your garden or on your verge can be fun – and very rewarding once you see it all in place and growing.

You can get lots of help and advice from staff at local garden shops and nurseries or in the many books available at the local library.

Finding plants that naturally grow locally is one way to get better results. Many of our local plants are very hardy and are used to getting little water during our hot dry summer. Think about planting at least one tree to provide summer shade.

You will need to know:

- What type of soil do you have – is it sandy and light or clay and rocky?
- Which way does the garden bed or verge face and how much shade or direct sun does it get?
- Do you get frosts in winter or extreme heat in summer that might damage more delicate plants?

To get you started the following pages contain lists of trees, shrubs, grasses and groundcovers that are most likely to grow well in the Armadale area.

Look at other varieties in the same plant families – there may be other option with different flower or foliage colours. Most importantly, check how big they are likely to grow.

Most local plants are available as tube stock from native plant nurseries. Buying tube stock costs much less than buying a more established plant from a nursery – but they do need a bit more patience for them to grow.

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Legend

- ‡ Local Armadale species
- † Understorey plant (needs shade)
- ↑ Likes clay soil in hills & scarp
- ↓ Likes sandy soil

Common Name	Genus	Species	Description	Height	
AUSTRALIAN NATIVE TREES	Gossamer Wattle ↓	Acacia	floribunda	Graceful deep green tree with bright yellow flowers in spring	5-6m
	Weeping Wattle ↓	Acacia	fimbriata	Graceful weeping small tree	4m
	Burgundy Peppermint ‡↓	Agonis	burgundy	Burgundy leafed weeping tree	4m
	Smooth Barked Apple ↑	Angophora	costata	Mottled trunk soft green leaves	7m
	Queensland Bottle Tree ↓	Brachychiton	rupestris	Bottle-shaped kurrajong similar to a Boab tree	6m
	Summer Sensation ↑↓	Eucalyptus	Summer Sensation	Clean trunk dense canopy with masses of yellow flowers	5m
	Silver Princess ‡	Eucalyptus	caesia	Weeping form with silver leaf and bark	5-8m
	Dwarf Sugar Gum ↑↓	Eucalyptus	cladocalyx nana	Dense canopy with cream flowers in summer	8m
	Swamp Mallee ‡	Eucalyptus	spathulata	Tall small semi-weeping gum	8-12m
	Coolgardie Coral Gum ↑	Eucalyptus	torquata	Delicate pink flowers in spring and summer	4m
	Red Paperbark ↑↓	Melaleuca	viridiflora	Red flowering paperbark 6m	6m
	Weeping Paperbark ↑↓	Melaleuca	leucadendra	Weeping paperbark cream flowers	10m

Common Name	Genus	Species	Description	Height	
DECIDUOUS TREES	White Mulberry Tree ↑↓	Morus	alba	White fruiting mulberry with dense canopy	8m
	Ornamental Flowering Plum ↑↓	Prunus	cerasifera nigra	Ornamental plum deep burgundy leaves and pink flowers in spring	6m
	Gleditzia ↑↓	Gleditzia	Shademaster	Deciduous tree dense canopy with deep green leaves	8m
	Red Cottonwood ↑↓	Hibiscus	tileaceous rubra	Cottonwood tree dense burgundy leaves and yellow flowers	5m
	Judas Tree ↑↓	Cercis	siliquastrum	Deciduous spring flowering tree	4m

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Little Nugget Wattle ‡ ↑↓	Acacia	pravissima	Golden flowers in spring deep green angular leaves	1m
Weeping Wattle ↓	Acacia	fimbriata dwarf	Golden flowers on semi-weeping shrub	70cm
Drummond's Wattle ‡ ↑↓	Acacia	drummondii	Small upright yellow flowering (spring)	50cm
Prickly Moses ‡ ↑↓	Acacia	pulchella	Small prickly yellow flowering (winter)	50cm-1m
Dwarf Sheoak ‡ ↑↓	Allocasuarina	humilis	Sprawling fine blue grey leaf	1-2m
Prostrate Woolley Bush ↑↓	Adenanthus	cunninghamii Silver Sands	Soft grey-green foliage with red flowers in spring and summer	1m
Dwarf Bottlebrush ↑↓	Callistemon	'Mathew Flinders'	Red flowers in summer on compact bush	30cm
Star flower ‡ ↑↓	Calytrix	acutifolia	Small delicate star shape flowered on fine lead bush	60cm
One-sided Bottlebrush ‡ ↑↓	Calothamnus	sanguineus	Soft grey leaf with red flowers	1m
Geraldton Wax ↓	Chamelaucium	cilitum	Dwarf Geraldton wax white flowers in late winter	80cm
Hop Bush ↑	Dodonaea	Viscosa purpurea	Tall, bronze leaf , red bracts	3m
White Myrtle ‡ ↑↓	Hypocalymma	angustifolium	Fine leaf white flowers in spring	1m
Bell Flower ‡ ↑↓	Darwinia	oxylepis	Pink bell flowers and deep green foliage	60cm
Emu Bush ↑↓	Eremophila	Lime gold	Yellow flowers on small shrub	30cm
Emu Bush ↑↓	Eremophila	Peaches and Cream	Apricot flowers on deep green foliage	30cm
Guichenotia ↓	Guichenotia	macrantha	Blue-grey foliage with mauve flowers	50cm
Dwarf Cape Green Grevillea ↑↓	Grevillea	lanigera	Creamy pink flowers on deep green foliage	60cm
Ti-tree ↓	Leptospermum	Shore Tuff	Deep green leaves, white flowers in summer	50cm
Ti-tree ↓	Leptospermum	Fore Shore	Deep green leaves white flowers spring and summer	50cm
Silver Bush ‡ ↑↓	Maireana	Smokey	Soft grey leafed shrub	30cm
Dwarf Paperbark ↑↓	Melaleuca	Claret Tops	Burgundy foliage on new growth	50cm
Little Penta Melaleuca ↑↓	Melaleuca	pentagona	Deep green semi-weeping, white flowers	50cm
Native Rosemary ↓	Westringia	Smokie	Grey foliage white flowers appearing in summer	80cm
Native Rosemary ↓	Westringia	Aussie Box	Grey-green foliage with mauve flowers	30cm
Smokebush ↓	Olearia	Little Smokie	Silver leaves with yellow flowers in summer	30cm

AUSTRALIAN NATIVE SHRUBS

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Common Name	Genus	Species	Description	Height	
GROUNDCOVERS	Desert Daisy ↑↓	Arctotis	All types	Dense ground cover with many different coloured daisy-like flowers	10cm x 3m
	Baeckea ↑↓	Baeckea	virgata minima	Starry white flowers in summer	30cm x 50cm
	Lemon-scented Darwinia ‡ † ↑	Darwinia	citriodora	Prostrate red flowering blue grey semi-weeping cover	30m
	Emu Bush ↑↓	Eremophila	glabra Roseworthy	Red flowering emu bush 15cm x 1m	15cm x 60cm
	Grevillea ↑↓	Grevillea	Coastal Gem	White flowers all year round	30cm x 1.5m
	Grevillea ↑↓	Grevillea	Gin Gin Gem	White flowers on spreading ground cover	30cm x 2m
	Grevillea ↑↓	Grevillea	Bird Feeders	Pink flowers in spring and summer	20cm x 1m
	Grevillea ↑↓	Grevillea	Ellendale Pool	Red flowers all year on weeping bush	30cm x 1m
	Snake bush ‡ ↓	Hemiandra	pungens	Prickly blue flowering ground cover	10cm x 1.8m
	Coral Vine ‡ † ↑	Kennedia	coccinea	Climbing vine with small red pea flowers	
	Running postman ‡ † ↑	Kennedia	prostrata	Prostrate vine with small red pea flowers	
	Pigface ↑↓	Mesembry-anthemum	All types	Succulent ground cover with bright yellow, pink, red or orange flowers in summer	10cm x 1m
	Creeping Boobialla ↑↓	Myoporum	parvifolium	White flowers on very flat ground cover	10cm x 1m

Common Name	Genus	Species	Description	Height	
GRASSES	Kangaroo Paw ↑↓	Anigozanthus	Big Red	Red flowers	1m
	Kangaroo Paw ↑↓	Anigozanthus	Amber Velvet	Orange flowers	1.2m
	Kangaroo Paw ↑↓	Anigozanthus	Yellow Gem	Yellow flowers	80cm
	Kangaroo Paw ‡ † ↑↓	Anigozanthus	manglesii	Green red flowers (WA floral emblem)	50cm
	Yellow Drumsticks ‡ † ↑↓	Conostylus	Cadicans	Grey foliage yellow flowers	20cm
	Dianella ↓	Dianella	Caerulea Stampede	Green foliage	30cm
	Dianella ↓	Dianella	Coolvista	Blue-green foliage	45cm
	Dianella ↓	Dianella	Steetscape	Green foliage	50cm
	Dianella ↓	Dianella	Cassa Blue	Blue-green foliage	20cm
	Dianella ↓	Dianella	Little Jess	Bright green foliage	40cm
	Lomandra ↑↓	Lomandra	Katrinus	Bright green foliage	30cm
	Lomandra ↑↓	Lomandra	Mondra	Lime green foliage	20cm
	Lomandra ↑↓	Lomandra	Wingara	Grey-green foliage	30cm
	Morning Iris ‡ † ↑	Orthrosanthus	laxus		<50cm