November 2026

Some Sowing and Planting ideas for November

Planting or sowing in November gives you a head start on the gardening year ahead, bringing flower and vegetable harvest times forward, while taking up soil space that would otherwise remain empty. Sowing as much as you can in November will save valuable time when temperatures increase again, enabling you to grow more of what you love.



Broad Beans - broad beans can be sown in the ground in autumn or alternatively in pots, for transplanting later. Sowing broad beans in November can bring your harvest forward by a few weeks, while having roots in the ground will aid soil structure and prevent leaching of soil nutrients in autumn rains. Sow hardy varieties suitable for autumn sowing. Harvesting from May to August



First early Peas - sow first early peas like 'Meteor' and 'Kelvedon Wonder' in autumn to overwinter, providing harvests in early summer. Protect the peas from slugs, birds and mice by growing in covered containers. Harvest from June to October



Onions and Shallots - plant sets now in well-drained soil. They grow best in a warm, sunny spot. Plant each bulb so that the tip is just showing, with 10-15cm between each bulb. Leave 30cm between rows. Shallot bulbs can be planted in the same way, but 15-20cm apart, and they can be planted up until December. Cover with fleece or netting to stop birds pulling up the bulbs. Harvest from June to September



Bare rooted fruit trees such as apple, pear, cherry and plum, along with blackcurrant, raspberry and gooseberry, can be planted now. These trees are dormant when planted but have the full season to grow as soon as temperatures increase in spring. Plant your tree/bush hole twice as wide as the roots and so the graft is 2/4 inches above the soil. Follow the planting instructions and water well.

Flowers

Spring bulbs can also be planted this month – the best bulbs to plant in November include tulips and alliums. Plant your daffodils, tulips and crocus now as well for a spring extravaganza of colour.



Sweet Peas - One of the best flowers to sow in November is sweet peas, as they'll flower earlier than spring-sown sweet peas. You can sow sweet peas anytime from October to April. Those sown in autumn will enter dormancy in winter and then start into growth again when temperatures warm up in spring. They will flower sooner than spring-sown sweet peas. For a long display, sow successionally from autumn to spring, so you have sweet peas flowering from May through to August. Pinch out the top of the seedlings once they reach about 4inchs high to encourage bushy growth. You will need to cover them with a cloche if the weather goes below -5C. You could place the top half of a cut plastic bottle over each seed when you sow them.



Bugle or Ajuga reptans, is a fantastic UK native and a useful groundcover plant in sun or partial shade and provide evergreen colour. This hardy perennial can be planted any time of year, especially if it's being used in a pot, but the best time to plant is in spring or autumn, when the soil is warm and moist. Divide clumps in early spring or autumn if the plant becomes congested. **Flowers:** April to May



Allium sphaerocephalon*,* these striking alliums are a hit with bees and other pollinators. They're usually grown by bulb, but it is possible (and cheaper) to grow them from seed. Sow them any time of year, ideally in containers, as they take a long time to germinate. They need a period of cold to germinate successfully, so sowing in November/December is ideal. **Flowers:** July to August.

Now is a great time to sow your wildflower seeds, they will hibernate under the soil over the winter months and give you and the pollinators a fantastic display in the Spring. Right, I'm off to buy my bulbs, seeds and plants and get sowing and planting.

Planting instructions from www.gardenersworld.com