

MAGNOLIAS IN MARCH

For stunning displays of early blooms you can't get better than early flowering Magnolias.

Flowers can be fragrant and are very showy.

Magnolias offer beauty at other times too, with elegant growth habits, attractive buds and even ornamental fruits (inedible)

Ideas for Mothers day—*Magnolia stellata* for Mums.

This deciduous shrub has a compact, bushy habit so it's ideal in quite small places. It flowers profusely in early to mid spring, producing big (12cm across) tough yet delicate looking flowers which are either pure white, or faintly flushed pink. The radial pattern of the petals gives the star-like effect.

Magnolia X loebneri 'Leonard Messel' is a bigger tree producing similar shaped, but pale lilac pink flowers in profusion. It reaches 8m at maturity.

Magnolia Soulangeana 'Rustica Rubra' bears dark purple goblet shaped blooms in mid to late spring, before the leaves appear and with the young leaves. Height/spread at maturity approx 6m.

Magnolia 'Susan' produces big, fragrant, goblet-shaped flowers but is a compact, upright shrub, and is ideal where space is limited. It achieves a height and spread at maturity of 4m and 3m respectively.

WHERE to plant - Magnolias will perform best if planted in moist, humus rich, well drained soil. They are happiest if soil pH is neutral to acid. It is important that they have shelter from strong winds, but are equally happy in sun or partial shade. All Magnolias are fully hardy.

Information Sheet: Magnolias.