inspired ideas

Gorgeous Rooms & Easy Touches From 12 Top Stylemakers

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A New Leaf

Fancy forms, bright hues, easy growing—there’s lots to love about the new coralbells.

By Jane Austin McKeon | Photos Laurie Black
Produced by Barbara Mundall

Heuchera Delta Dawn is a colorful companion for this fern, Athyrium Pewter Lace.
Coralbells in new sizes, leaf shapes, and colorful hues are ringing up excitement for the fall planting season. The arrival of these fresh-faced *Heuchera* varieties at garden centers comes just in time to spice up autumn containers and borders. “It used to be that if you had beautiful flowers, the foliage was boring,” says Dan Heims of Terra Nova Nurseries, a leader in *Heuchera* breeding. “With today’s *Heuchera*, you get both.”

Another plus: Coralbells play well with others. “They don’t take over, and they’re a stunning foil for other perennials,” Heims says. Low growers with small leaves make great groundcovers. Medium-size types are ideal container partners and border accents. Tiny types—such as the new Little Cuties Sweet Tart, above right—are perfect for pots.

Plant coralbells in fall or spring. The secret to success: good drainage. (That’s why they do so well in raised beds and pots.) “If they dry out to the point of collapse, they’ll rebound quickly with watering,” Heims says. But nearly all are happiest in morning sun and afternoon shade. Where winters are mild, foliage stays vibrant year-round.

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**HEUCHERA** varieties | Perennial

**ZONES:** 4–9 | **WATER:** Moist but well-drained soil

**HEIGHT:** 6-10” | **SUN:** Part sun to shade

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As plants grow, their crowns rise out of the soil. Either mulch the plant, above, or lift, divide, and replant. Don’t bury the crowns.

*Heuchera* leaves last a long time in bouquets. A trio of Green Spice leaves frames sea holly and goldenrod. Freshen water daily.
VARieties

Pick your palette
There’s a Heuchera for every garden, no matter what your space or color scheme.

1) SUGAR PLUM
Frosty purple leaves form 12-inch-tall mounds. Pink blooms.

2) BLACK BEAUTY
Shiny, ruffled black leaves backlit by ruby red. White flowers.

3) MARMALADE
Ruffled umber to sienna leaves with pink undersides. A good landscape pick for the North.

4) ELECTRIC LIME
Light green leaves sport red veins. Stays fresh in Southern heat and humidity.

5) GINGER PEACH
Ruffled leaves change from peach to copper. Bred for the North.

6) GEORGIA PEACH
Foliage deepens to rose. A good choice for Southern landscapes.

7) SPELLBOUND
Purple leaves tinged with silver. Great in pots or in the landscape.

8) DELTA DAWN
Red veins highlight lime green leaves in this versatile variety.

9) SWEET TART
What a Little Cutie! Just one in the new series of mini Heucheras. Pot it up as a houseplant, too.
IF YOU'VE HAD CHICKENPOX, THE SHINGLES VIRUS IS ALREADY INSIDE YOU.

As you get older, your risk for this painful rash increases.

The fact is, 1 in 3 people will get Shingles in their lifetime. The same virus that causes chickenpox also causes Shingles. And if you've ever had chickenpox, like 98% of adults in the United States, this virus never leaves your body. Instead, it stays in your nervous system. With each passing decade, there's a greater chance the virus will emerge as Shingles — a blistering rash that may bring deep, penetrating pain. Unlike chickenpox, Shingles is painful and can lead to long-term nerve pain. So don't wait to learn more about it.

TALK TO YOUR HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONAL TODAY OR VISIT SHINGLESINFO.COM

Coralbells set container gardens ablaze. In this large pot: 1) Thalictrum Evening Star, 2) Hakonechloa Stripe It Rich, 3) Heuchera Cherry Cola, and 4) Penstemon Dark Towers. Transplant to the garden before the ground freezes.

Buy coralbells to plant this fall!
Go to BHGGardenStore.com to purchase many of the coralbells featured in this story.
Foamy bells

Coralbells crossed with foamflowers (*Tiarella*) produce foamy bells (*Heucherella*), plants with superior heat tolerance. Look for trailing varieties, too.

1) **GOLD ZEBRA**
Deeply lobed, two-tone leaves. Great groundcover.

2) **SWEET TEA**
Cinnamon-hued leaves turn spicy orange in fall.

3) **ALABAMA SUNRISE**
Seasonal color changes, from gold to orange-pink.

For buying information see page 216.

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