POOLSIDE PLANTS FOR DESERT LANDSCAPES

These plants produce a relatively low amount of litter on an annual basis. Avoid thorny or spiny plants or those plants that attract bees with their blooms if children frequent the area.

TREES:

Acacia aneura	Mulga Tree
Acacia craspedocarpa	Leatherleaf Acacia
Senegalia (Acacia) greggii	Catclaw Acacia
Acacia salicina	Willow Acacia
Acacia stenophylla	Shoestring Acacia
Mariosousa (Acacia) willardiana	Palo Blanco
Celtis ehrenbergiana (pallida)	Desert Hackberry
Eysenhardtia orthocarpa	Kidneywood
Olneya tesota	Ironwood

Olneya tesota

SHRUBS:

Anisacanthus quadrifidus	Flame Anisacanthus
Anisacanthus thurberi	Desert-honeysuckle
Buddleja marrubiifolia	Woolly Butterfly Bush
Calliandra californica	Baja Fairy Duster
Calliandra eriophylla	Fairy Duster
Cordia parvifolia	Littleleaf Cordia
Dalea frutescens	Black Dalea
Dalea pulchra	Bush Dalea
Dalea versicolor	Wislizenus Dalea
Dodonaea viscosa	Hopbush
Encelia farinosa	Brittlebush
Eremophila spp.	Emu Bushes
Ericameria laricifolia	Turpentine Bush
Eriogonum fasciculatum	Flattop Buckwheat
Guiacum coulteri	Guayacan
Hamelia patens	Firecracker Bush
Hyptis emoryi	Desert-lavender
Justicia californica	Chuparosa
Larrea tridentata	Creosote
Leucophyllum spp.	Texas Rangers, Texas-sages
Lycium spp.	Wolfberries, Thornbushes

Buddleja marrubiifolia

Calliandra eriophylla

Dalea frutescens

Malpighia emarginata 'Mariquita'	Barbados Cherry
Maytenus phyllanthoides	Mangle Dulce
Perovskia atriplicifolia	Russian-sage
Rosmarinus officinalis	Rosemany
Ruellia peninsularis	Desert Ruellia
Salvia clevelandii	Chaparral Sage
Salvia leucantha	Mexican Bush Sage
Senna lindheimeriana	Lindheimer Senna
Senna purpusii	Baja Senna
Simmondsia chinensis	Jojoba
Calia (Sophora) secundiflora	Texas Mountain Laurel
Sphaeralcea ambigua	Globemallow
Tagetes lemmonii	Mt. Lemmon Marigold
Tecoma stans	Yellow Bells
Tecoma 'Orange Jubilee'	Orange Jubilee
Trixis californica	Trixis
Vauquelinia californica	Arizona Rosewood
Viguiera parishii (*V. deltoidea*)	Goldeneye
Wedelia texana (*Zexmenia hispida*)	Rough Zexmenia

Saliva leucantha

PERENNIALS:

Chrysactinia mexicana

Salvia greggii 'Alba'

Glandularia gooddingii

Artemisia ludoviciana	Mugwort
Baileya multiradiata	Desert-marigold
Berlandiera lyrata	Chocolate Flower
Bulbine frutescens	Bulbine
Chrysactinia mexicana	Damianita
Convolvulus cneorum	Bush Morning Glory
Dicliptera resupinata	Dicliptera
Euphorbia rigida	Gopher Plant
Gaura lindheimeri	Gaura
Glandularia gooddingii	Goodding's Verbena
Melampodium leucanthum	Blackfoot-daisy
Oenothera caespitosa	White Tufted Evening Primrose
Penstemon spp.	Penstemons
Plumbago scandens	White Plumbago
Psilostrophe spp.	Paper Flowers
Russelia equisetiformis	Coral Fountain
Salvia chamaedryoides	Blue Sage
Salvia farinacea	Mealy-cup Sage
Salvia greggii	Autumn Sage
Tetraneuris acaulis	Angelita Daisy
Teucrium chamaedrys	Germander
Thymophylla pentachaeta	Golden Fleece
Zephyranthes spp.	Rain-lilies
Zinnia acerosa	Desert Zinnia

GROUNDCOVERS:

Acacia redolens	Desert Carpet®
Dalea capitata	Lemon Dalea
Dalea greggii	Trailing Indigo Bush, Trailing Smokebush
Drosanthemum spp.	Ice Plants
Gazania rigens 'Sun Gold'	Sun Gold Gazania
Lantana spp.	Lantanas
Malephora spp.	Ice Plants
Sphagneticola trilobata	Yellow Dot

Merremia aurea

VINES:

Antigonon leptopus	Queen's Wreath
Callaeum macropterum	Yellow-orchid Vine
Cissus trifoliata	Arizona Grape-ivy
Merremia aurea	Yellow Morning Glory Vine

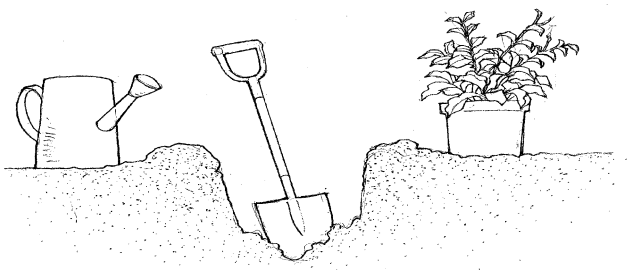
ACCENT PLANTS:

Agave spp.	Agaves
Aloe spp.	Aloes
Asclepias subulata	Desert Milkweed
Dasylirion spp.	Desert Spoons
Euphorbia antisyphilitica	Candelilla
Euphorbia milii	Crown of Thorns
Euphorbia resinifera	Moroccan Mound
Fouquieria macdougalii	Tree Ocotillo
Fouquieria splendens	Ocotillo
Hesperaloe spp.	Hesperaloes
Manfreda spp.	Manfredas
Muhlenbergia spp.	Muhly grasses
Nolina spp.	Nolinas, Beargrasses
Opuntia spp.	Prickly-pears
Pachycereus schottii f. *monstrosus*	Totem Pole Cactus
Pedilanthus macrocarpus	Slipper Plant
Portulacaria afra	Elephant's Food
Sansevieria sp.	Sansevieria, Mother-in-Law's Tongue
Yucca spp.	Yuccas

Aloe variegata

Need Help?

For more information about particular desert plants or problems, call the Desert Botanical Garden's Plant Hotline, 480-481-8120, Monday through Friday, from 10:00 – 11:30 a.m. or email your questions to planthotline@dbg.org



The Desert Botanical Garden provides a range of services to homeowners including a desert Plant Hotline, a variety of classes about landscaping and gardening in the desert, an onsite library, and an extensive selection of resources in the Garden Shop.

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