



There are still jobs to do in the garden! Get outside, get busy, and then the best bit.... fires, mince pies and hot tea!

FLOWERING PLANTS

Indoor job

- ◆ Review the results of last summer: where was there a lack of colour? If there is anything you want to change? Study your garden plan or photos taken of your garden (it's a good idea to take photos monthly) during the summer.
- ◆ Order seeds, flower bulbs and plants for the coming year.
- ◆ Taller-growing bush roses can be pruned down by about half, which will prevent the wind from causing them to become loose through swaying, and in turn damaging the roots.
- ◆ The branches of standard roses should also be pruned.

WINTER BIRD CARE

If you want plenty of birds in your garden, remember to provide for them during the winter months. They require:

- ◆ FEED
- ◆ WATER
- ◆ SHELTER



PONDS

- ◆ Ice forming over the pond traps gasses from decaying vegetation, which harm fish. Install a pond de-icer or float a ball on the surface.
- ◆ If ice forms, place a pan of boiling water on the ice, keep hold of the handle until the ice melts. Cover the hole with a sack.
- ◆ Do not pour boiling water all over the ice as it will harm the fish.

LAWNS

- ◆ Remove the last of the fallen leaves.
- ◆ Try to keep off the lawn when it is wet or frozen.



FRUIT AND VEGETABLES

- ◆ Prune apple trees. Pruning of fruit trees, such as gooseberries, red, white and black currants should be done from Nov to March.
- ◆ Pick Brussels sprouts.
- ◆ Harvest winter vegetables and check on those you've stored.
- ◆ Currants – extra plants can be raised by hardwood cuttings being taken from existing healthy bushes. The cuttings should be 25-30cm (10-12") in length, then buried to about half their depth.
- ◆ Vacant areas in the vegetable plot can be dug ready for sowing and planting in spring.

TOOLS AND MAINTENANCE

Indoor job

- ◆ If you have not done so yet, have the lawn mower serviced.