



## A Comprehensive Guide to Hydrangeas: Types, Colors, and Care

*Hydrangeas are among the most beloved garden shrubs in American landscapes. With dramatic blooms, a long flowering season, and a wide range of forms, they can transform any garden space.*

### The Six Main Types of Hydrangeas

1. Bigleaf Hydrangea (*Hydrangea macrophylla*)

Classic hydrangea with mophead or lacecap blooms. Color changes with soil pH.

2. Smooth Hydrangea (*Hydrangea arborescens*)

Includes 'Annabelle'. Blooms on new wood and is very easy to grow.

3. Panicle Hydrangea (*Hydrangea paniculata*)

Cone-shaped blooms that age from white to pink or red. Very hardy.

4. Oakleaf Hydrangea (*Hydrangea quercifolia*)

Oak-shaped leaves, beautiful fall color, and peeling bark.

5. Climbing Hydrangea (*Hydrangea anomala* subsp. *petiolaris*)

A vine that climbs using aerial roots and produces lacecap flowers.

6. Mountain Hydrangea (*Hydrangea serrata*)

Compact and cold-hardy with lacecap blooms.

### Soil pH and Color

Blue: pH below 5.5

Purple: pH 5.5–6.5

Pink: pH above 7

White: unaffected

**Care Tips**

- Water regularly
- Use rich, well-drained soil
- Provide morning sun, afternoon shade
- Prune based on bloom type

**Safety Note**

Hydrangeas contain compounds that can be toxic if ingested. Keep away from pets and children.

**Final Thoughts**

Hydrangeas are versatile, beautiful, and rewarding plants that bring life and color to any garden.