

## SUMMER HEAT-ICULTURE: EXPERT REVEALS ESSENTIAL JOBS TO KEEP YOUR GARDEN GLOWING THROUGH THE HOTTER MONTHS

- With summer approaching and British gardens about to be overrun with parties and sun-seekers, the nation will be desperately searching for essential gardening intel
- B&Q's Horticulture Expert, Mark Sage, has revealed a foolproof guide full of month-by-month jobs to keep gardens flourishing all summer long
- Starting at just £3, all essential summer gardening gadgets are available in B&Q stores nationwide now, or online at [diy.com](https://www.diy.com)

With the weather warming up, British gardens are about to play host to all sorts of summertime activities, and the pressure is on to avoid maintenance mistakes and keep that garden glowing for guests.

Here to help, **B&Q's Horticulture Expert**, Mark Sage, advises that the key to keeping a garden in top shape through June, July, and August is writing a monthly to-do list and staying on top of key jobs, from weeding to watering and deadheading.

**Mark says:** "Summer gardening isn't just about enjoying your space, it's about maintaining it, and each month brings its own jobs that are vital for keeping your garden vibrant and productive. Whether it's staking tall perennials in June, managing your lawn in July, or planting autumn-flowering bulbs in August, a little effort will go a long way."

To help Brits keep their gardens looking lush all season, Mark has put together a foolproof expert guide, with a month-by-month checklist and all his top gardening product picks to support both beginners and seasoned gardeners alike.

### JUNE



**Mark says:** "The warm weather is really when your garden comes alive, but it also brings challenges. Weeds can quickly take over, and plants need regular watering to cope with the

heat. It's easy to overlook smaller jobs during this busy time, but a steady routine pays off - staking your taller plants before they topple, training climbing roses while the stems are still flexible, and harvesting early vegetables to make space for the next crop. These simple tasks keep your garden thriving and looking beautiful all summer long."

**Mark's key jobs for June:**

- Stick to a weekly weeding schedule to keep borders tidy.
- Regularly check for any pests and diseases and treat early.
- Thin out fruit trees to avoid overcrowding & net any fruit bushes to protect from birds.
- Feed plants weekly, especially those in pots and containers – Why not start a 'Feeding Friday'?
- Water early in the day and damp down greenhouse paths to maintain humidity.
- Stake delphiniums and sunflowers before they get too tall.
- Harvest early crops like rocket and potatoes – and sow your next round.
- Train climbing plants, such as roses, clematis and sweet peas, while new growth is flexible.

**June must-haves:**

- [Fiskars Xact Weed puller](#) - £49
- [Hozelock Freestanding Hose pipe cart](#) - £70
- [Verve Green Plastic & steel Stake](#) - £3

**JULY**

**Mark says:** "July is when your garden truly shines - vibrant flowers are blooming, and fruit and vegetables are growing nicely. Regular deadheading helps plants keep flowering longer, and watering becomes crucial, especially for containers and hanging baskets which can dry out quickly in the heat. Feeding plants consistently will boost their health and productivity. Remember to check your lawn care routine too, raising mower blades during hot spells to protect grass from stress."

**Mark's key jobs for July:**

- Deadhead flowering plants regularly to encourage new blooms.
- Water containers and baskets twice daily during heatwaves.

- Feed fruit and veg plants consistently, especially those in greenhouses.
- Raise your mower blades and trim lawn edges after every cut.
- Start sowing autumn crops like carrots, turnips, and lettuce.
- Harvest vegetables regularly to encourage more crops.
- Pinch out tomatoes, removing side shoots and tops.

#### **July must-haves:**

- [GoodHome Durum Bypass Secateurs](#) - £17
- [Miracle-Gro All purpose Liquid Plant feed](#) - £13
- [Miracle-Gro Concentrated Moss killer](#) - £10.50

### **AUGUST**



**Mark says:** “August is a wonderful time to enjoy the garden you created, with plenty of fresh produce and flowers. But it’s also the perfect moment to start thinking about next year’s garden. Keep your containers watered and fed, plant autumn-flowering bulbs to extend the season, and take note of what’s thrived and what might need rethinking. Avoid feeding plants late in the season so they don’t push out new growth that won’t harden before winter. Taking time now to review and plan means you’ll be ready to hit the ground running next spring.”

#### **Mark’s Key Jobs for August:**

- Harvest everything from beans and chillies to apples and blackberries.
- Water containers in the evening and feed flowering and fruiting plants with a high potash feed such as tomato feed.
- Plant autumn-flowering bulbs like crocus and cyclamen.
- Stop feeding herbaceous perennials by month’s end to avoid late, frost-sensitive growth.
- Take photos and notes of what worked (and what didn’t) to help plan for next spring.
- Keep dead heading flowering plants such as Roses, Dahlias and bedding plants for more blooms.

#### **August must-haves:**

- [Magnusson 250mm Steel Heavy duty Scissors](#) - £8



- [Kent & Stowe Hand Tools Wooden Bulb planter](#) - £7
- [Verve Seaweed Liquid Plant feed](#) - £5

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**ENDS**

**Notes to editors:**

For more information, images and sample requests, please contact [b-and-q@wearetheromans.com](mailto:b-and-q@wearetheromans.com)

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