When to Prune Flowering Shrubs

By seasonally pruning your flowering shrubs, you can remove old or damaged wood that is more susceptible to disease, control the size & shape of your plants, and increase branching (which boosts flowering capacity). However, timing your pruning, so as not to disrupt the upcoming season's flower production, is key to promoting abundant blossoms.

Prune these spring-flowering shrubs soon after flowering:

Serviceberry Lilac Sweetshrub
Spirea (thunbergii, vanhouteii) Honeysuckle Cotoneaster
Barberry Fothergilla Leucothoe
Rhododendron Mockorange Euonymus

Dogwood Witch hazel Flowering Almond

PierisViburnumKerriaDeutziaDaphne WeigelaAroniaMt. LaurelMahoniaMagnolia

Forsythia Azalea

Prune these summer-flowering shrubs during winter dormancy:

Abelia Beauty Berry Privet Hydrangea St. John's Wort Itea

Spirea (*japonica*, *bumalda*) Rose of Sharon Caryopteris

Flowering Times of Shrubs

Early Spring

Forsythia Mahonia Spirea Azalea Quince Spirea Viburnum Pieris

Spicebush Mid Spring Sumac

Late Spring/Early Summer

Chokeberry Kerria Itea Mockorange **Butterfly Bush** Daphne Mt. Laurel Weigela Deutzia Sweetshrub Spirea Lilac Beautyberry Hydrangea Rhododendron Potentilla Dogwood Cotoneaster Tamarix Most Viburnum

Smokebush

Mid/Late Summer

Butterfly Bush Summersweet Beautyberry Hydrangeas St. John's Wort Potentilla Caryopteris Butterfly Bush

Spirea Rose of Sharon

