

# Wonderful and water-wise

This colorful design is also meant for a sunny location in the garden, but these tough perennials have the added benefit of being very drought-tolerant once they're established.

The coneflower adds an intense claret-red dash to the mostly yellow, purple and orange summer color theme. Musk mallow provides a backdrop of airy light-pink blooms. If you'd like shorter plants, pinch back the growing

tips in early spring. This perennial tends to be short-lived, but its habit of re-seeding guarantees you'll enjoy it in your garden from year to year.

In this bed we use three different penstemons — purple, orange and yellow. A penstemon bonus: Hummingbirds and butterflies adore the tubular flowers. To keep the plant blooming and looking tidy, deadhead the spent flower stalks at the base of the plant.



**full sun**

To start this garden's season of bloom even earlier, underplant with spring bulbs like tulips and crocus. Then simply stand back and enjoy the show!



Plant List Code	Plant Name	Cold/Heat Zones	No. to Plant
A	Musk mallow <i>Malva moschata</i>	4 to 8/8 to 1	3
B	Bearded iris <i>Iris 'Sky Hooks'</i>	4 to 9/9 to 1	3
C	Purple coneflower <i>Echinacea 'Vintage Wine'</i>	3 to 9/8 to 1	1
D	Rocky mountain penstemon <i>Penstemon strictus</i>	3 to 10/10 to 2	2
E	Yellow pineleaf penstemon <i>Penstemon pinifolius 'Mersea Yellow'</i>	3 to 10/10 to 2	4
F	Pineleaf penstemon <i>Penstemon pinifolius</i>	4 to 10/9 to 1	2
G	Veronica <i>Veronica Blue Reflection™</i>	4 to 8/8 to 1	5