

One-Saturday Front Yard Bed

Prep and plant a gorgeous curved landscape border without backbreaking tilling.

Transform your landscape before Monday using this simple layer-by-layer method. Mark out, prep, and plant a professional-looking front bed this weekend.

● Bed Dimensions & Milestones

5 ft

Deep from house to clear siding

4 in

Spade-cut edge stops aggressive roots

2 in

Compost on cardboard over the sod

3 in

Double-shredded hardwood mulch protective finish

July

Shear catmint for repeat summer blooms

Year 1

Annuals fill gaps while perennials mature



Keep Mulch Away From Stems

Pull dark wood chips back slightly to leave a bare ring around every crown. This ensures delicate stems breathe properly and naturally resist damaging fungal diseases.

● Hour-by-Hour Saturday Sequence

- 1 **Hose Layout & Edge** Outline a gentle 12-foot curve with a garden hose, then dig a vertical boundary trench.
- 2 **Smother The Grass** Lay plain brown cardboard over the sod, wet thoroughly, and cover with organic matter.
- 3 **Soak Base Layers** Run a standard oscillating sprinkler over the freshly spread mix for twenty uninterrupted minutes.
- 4 **Plant The Bed** Position shrubs slightly above existing grade, alternate the middle perennials, and add a front ribbon.
- 5 **Mulch & Water** Spread the protective blanket and thoroughly soak the entire area every morning for two weeks.

● Plant & Material List

- ☐ 3 each: dwarf hydrangeas, violet catmint, and black-eyed Susans
- ☐ Space hydrangeas 3.5 ft apart and 3 ft from house
- ☐ Space middle zone perennials exactly 24 in apart
- ☐ 12 white sweet alyssum (plant 8 in apart in front)
- ☐ High-quality organic compost mix from a trusted local nursery
- ☐ Double-shredded hardwood mulch to lock in essential soil moisture

● Before You Start Digging

- Check the sweeping hose arch from the street for balance.
- Ensure mature shrubs won't rub against your home's siding.
- Remove glossy or tape-covered boxes to prevent grass survival.
- Verify you have enough daylight to finish before Sunday.

● Digging The Right Hole

Find your row: **Nursery pot size**

Nursery pot size	Your pick	Why
1 Gallon pot	12w x 6d inches	Sets crown slightly above grade
3 Gallon pot	20w x 10d inches	Prevents dangerous root rot
5 Gallon pot	24w x 12d inches	Helps new roots establish quickly

● Garden Center Notes

Enjoy your beautiful new front yard landscape and those gorgeous summer blooms!