



Perennials are perfect for adding beauty to gardens and containers. But are there some perennials that work better together than others? Are there some pairings that, like the power couples of Hollywood and industry, just naturally cause heads to turn? The answer is a resounding yes if you keep a few things in mind.

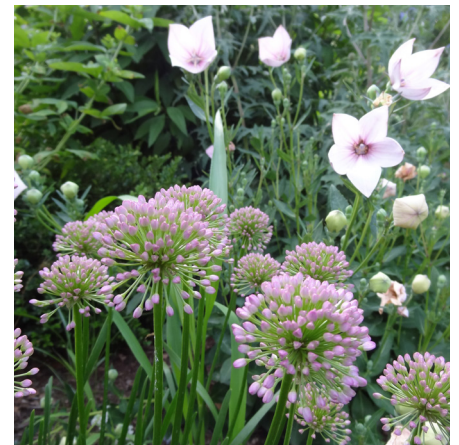
1. Power Couples need to have something in common.

If Power Couples have no mutual interests, what is there to talk about? It's the same with perennial Power Couples. There must be a few things that are shared – whether a color, shape or texture. Using a color echo is a wonderful way to have your perennial pairing speak to each other.



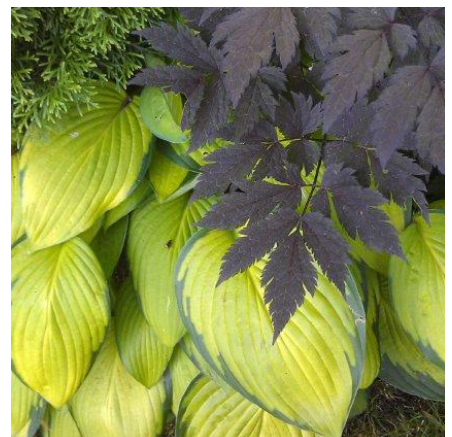
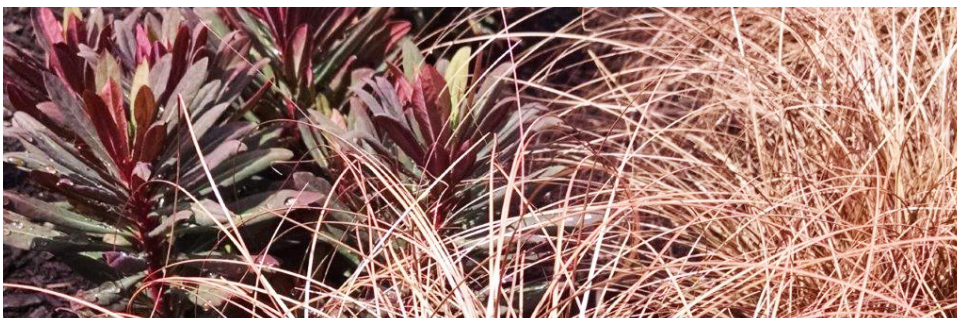
2. But they shouldn't be the same.

To make a perennial Power Couple work there must be some contrast. Too much sameness is a recipe for a dull, flat composition. Try varying flower shapes to create a bit of tension. Daisy-shaped with spikes, for instance, automatically adds interest to the garden.



3. Great Power Couples must like being together.

Power Couples need to be happy in the same environment. Two perennials that look good together and yet have different light/water needs will never last and will most likely remind you of the couples you've seen in restaurants that don't talk to each other. To be a great matchmaker make sure to introduce sun lovers with sun lovers, shade lovers with shade lovers.





The following perennial combinations are guaranteed to get your garden and containers noticed.

1. Achillea 'Moonshine' and Salvia 'May Night'
2. Daffodils and Muscari
3. Dicentra spectabilis and Brunnera
4. Paeonia and Delphinium
5. Rosa and Nepeta
6. Sedum 'Autumn Joy' and Miscanthus
7. Sedum 'Dazzleberry' and Schizachyrium
8. Hosta and Hakonechloa
9. Hosta 'Paul's Glory' and Lamium 'Aureum'
10. Hosta 'Sum and Substance' and Actaea 'Brunette'
11. Allium 'Millenium' and Platycodon 'Astra Pink'
12. Liatris and Echinacea
13. Helenium 'Moorheim Beauty' and Solidago
14. Echinacea 'Magnus' and Sedum 'Autumn Joy'
15. Echinops and Achillea
16. Echinops 'Veitch's Blue' and Phlox 'Jessica'
17. Carex 'Cappuccino' and Euphorbia 'Blackbird'
18. Echinacea 'White Swan' and Pennisetum
19. Helictotrichon and Eryngium 'Tiny Jackpot'
20. Alchemilla and Stachys 'Helene von Stein'
21. Thalictrum 'Lavender Mist' and Verbascum
22. Echinacea 'Magnus' and Heuchera 'Lava Lamp'
23. Carex and Heuchera 'Dales Strain'
24. Allium christophii and Astrantia 'Ruby Wedding'
25. Liatris and Asclepias tuberosa
26. Nepeta 'Walkers Low' and Alchemilla
27. Papaver 'Lauren's Grape' and Lupine
28. Echinacea and Persicaria
29. Camassia quamosh and Hakonechloa 'All Gold'
30. Tulip 'Princess Irene' and Muscari
31. Allium 'Purple Sensation' and Alchemilla
32. Ophiopogon and Stachys 'Silver Carpet'
33. Sedum 'Angelina' and Heuchera 'Carnival Watermelon'
34. Actaea 'Brunette' and Astrantia 'Canneman'
35. Rosa 'Lady of Shalot' and Achillea 'Paprika' or 'Strawberry Seduction'
36. Astrantia and Salvia
37. Echinacea simulata and Veronicastrum
38. Aster 'Monch' and Achillea 'Gold Plate'
39. Sedum 'Autumn Joy' and Stachys
40. Rosa 'Lady of Shalot' and Nepeta
41. Rosa 'Teasing Georgia' and Achillea 'Paprika'
42. Echinacea and Agastache
43. Trollius 'Cheddar' and Hosta 'Katherine Lewis'