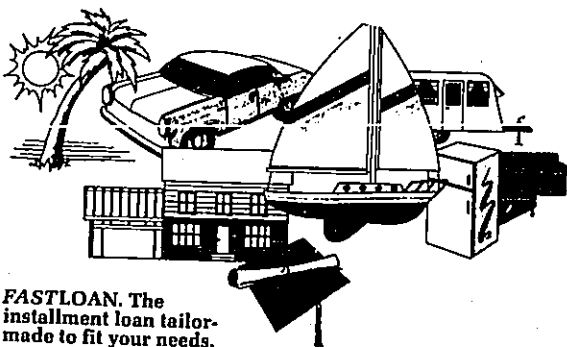


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These plants have it made in the shade

Plenty of flowers are now available for shade. The selection of colorful blossoms with varying heights, shapes and colors is nearly endless.

America's first choice is usually the impatiens. New impatiens now shine brightly from nearly any shaded condition. Varieties such as the "Super Elfins" and Fantasia series are genetically programmed for the shaded tough spots in virtually every prism of the color spectrum.

There are several other species of annual flowers which will also tolerate up to half a day of shade and keep on producing blossoms. Many of these flowers are sold as "sun annuals." Contrary to this labeling, they will do just as well, and sometimes better, in locations with protection from harsh light.

Salvia, commonly known as scarlet sage, is no longer only scarlet. Now salvia can be purchased in blue, orange, rose, scarlet and white. The showy spikes of the "Carabinieri" series are equally at home in partial shade. In warm climates where day temperatures climb uncomfortably, expect even better performance from these salvia when given only morning's light.

Don't forget the award winning "Nicki" series of nicotiana for partially

shaded areas. The "Nicki" series are scaled down versions of what grandma called "flowering tobacco." The improved varieties grow no taller than 16 to 18 inches in the home garden. The rose, pink, white, red and yellow flowers remain open during the day and scent the evening air with a delicate perfume.

Color from leaves brightens up a dark corner as effectively as flowers when coleus is the choice. Coleus do not merely tolerate shade, they thrive when planted there. For best effect use a single color coleus, rather than a mix. There are three new additions to the "Wizard" coleus series, all compact and late blooming. Look for cream and green 'Jade,' intense 'Red' or apricot 'Sunset' in seed catalogs, or purchase them as started plants at garden centers. For shaded hanging baskets, select a 'Saber' variety, or 'Scarlet Poncho' which was bred for basket display.

To keep flowers blooming vigorously in the shade, go light on fertilizer applications. Shade-tolerant annuals prosper with fewer applications of fertilizer than their sunny counterparts.

Widen your shade horizon with these adaptable garden introductions. They need minimum care, but rate maximum appreciation!

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