

Crevice Plants

Botanical Name	Common Name	Height	Comments
<i>Achillea tomentosa</i>	wooly yarrow	6-14"	Yellow blossoms all summer.
<i>Adonis vernalis</i>	pheasant eye, spring adonis	6-15"	Full sun to part shade, well-drained soil; clump forming with bright yellow flowers.
<i>Ajuga reptans</i>	bugleweed	6-12"	Moist soil, part shade to part sun; creeping evergreen with dark blue flowers; short-lived.
<i>Alchemilla alpina</i>	mountain lady's mantle	6-8"	Full sun or partial shade, deeply cut leaves with silvery margins.
<i>Antennaria dioica</i>	pussy toes	2-10"	Full sun, poor dry soil, basal silver leaves, <i>rosea</i> has rose-red 8-10" flowers.
<i>Aquilegia jonesii</i>	columbine	4"	Full sun or part shade; blue-gray leaves with blue-violet flowers.
<i>Arabis caucasica</i>	wall rock cress	6-12"	Full sun, needs dry or well-drained sites; white May flowers; good cascade
<i>Arenaria balearica</i>	sandwort	4-8"	Full sun to part shade, moist soil; deer resistant; drought tolerant.
<i>Artemisia pedemontana</i>	artemesia	3-8"	Evergreen, fern-like leaves; yellow flowers in June; perfect for vertical crevice.
<i>Aurinia saxatilis</i>	basket of gold	4-8"	Full sun; well-drained soil; bright yellow flowers.
<i>Callirhoe involucrata</i>	poppy mallow, wine cups	6-12"	Native; full sun or light shade; needs well-drained sites; magenta flowers.
<i>Campanula porscharkskyana</i>	bellflower, campanula	6-12"	Moist, well-drained soil; full sun to part shade; vigorous; lavender-blue flowers.
<i>Cerastium tomentosum</i>	snow in summer	2-3"	Full sun; silver-grey foliage; white flowers.
<i>Dianthus</i> spp.	dianthus	2-4"	Full sun/afternoon shade; well-drained soil; tiny, fragrant pink flowers.
<i>Gypsophila repens</i>	creeping baby's breath	6-8"	Full sun; well-drained soil; mat forming; semi-evergreen.
<i>Iberis sempervirens</i>	candytuft	6-18"	Full sun to part shade; tolerates poor soil; spreading; white flowers.
<i>Lysimachia nummularia</i> 'Aurea'	moneywort	4-5"	Sun or partial shade; yellow leaves on this cultivar; green form is more vigorous.
<i>Nepeta</i> spp.	catmint	6-24"	Sun or partial shade; grey-green foliage; blue flowers; can be aggressive.
<i>Phlox subulata</i>	creeping phlox	4-8"	Full sun to part shade; well-drained soil.
<i>Sedum acre</i>	sedum	2-3"	Full sun; well-drained soil; spring golden flowers; filler for stepping stones.
<i>Sedum kamtschaticum</i>	sedum	4-9"	Full sun; well-drained soil; summer yellow-orange flowers in flat clusters.
<i>Sedum spurium</i>	dragon's blood	3-4"	Purple foliage; dark red summer flowers; full sun; well-drained soil.
<i>Sempervivum</i> spp.	hen and chicks	3-12"	Full sun; tolerates poor soil conditions; low growing; succulent; perennial.
<i>Thymus serpyllum</i>	thyme	1-3"	Full sun; mat forming; well-drained soil; 'Coccinea' has summer red flowers.

All of these plants are useful for stepping stones, or wall and rock garden areas. Cindy and Shirley's method for planting seeds in walls: 1) Fold an index card in half lengthwise and sprinkle seeds into card. 2) Position card in crack to be planted, then blow the seeds into a fine, rich soil mix in crevice. 3) Mist with a spray bottle of water, apply a piece of facial tissue to the dampened crevice to act as biodegradable mulch, and mist regularly until established.

Compiled by Cindy Welke and Shirley Oberton, Winona County Master Gardeners. Cindy and Shirley both have limestone walls in their gardens along the Mississippi River bluffs in southeastern Minnesota.



Catnip (foreground atop wall) is a vigorous perennial that has self-seeded into crevices.



Campanula, lavender, sedum, scilla, and yucca easily grow in this sunny wall.