<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Smooth (H. arborescens) or Panicle (H. paniculata)</th>
<th>Bigleaf (H. macrophylla) or Mountain (H. serrata)</th>
<th>Climbing (H. petiolaris) or Oakleaf (H. quercifolia)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>How long ago did you plant it?</strong></td>
<td><strong>Did you cut it back?</strong></td>
<td><strong>How old is the plant?</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&lt; 2 years</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>&lt; 5 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Needs more time to develop a root system.</td>
<td>Oops! You cut off the flower buds. Avoid pruning.</td>
<td>5+ years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mulch and keep well watered; it will bloom in time.</td>
<td>Do you live in a cold climate?</td>
<td>These plants tend to need to be more mature to flower well. Give them more time.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>How much light does it get?</strong></td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Did you cut it back?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4+ hours</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&lt; 4 hours</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Did you cut it back?</td>
<td>Needs more sun</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>When?</strong></td>
<td>Flower buds were killed by cold. Move to a more protected spot; protect plant on spring nights when frost or freeze threatens.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>Too much shade or deer damage</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Deer damage or low light</strong></td>
<td>Decker damage or deer damage</td>
<td>Deer damage or low light</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>fall</td>
<td>Elk</td>
<td>Do you live in a cold climate?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deer damage or low light</td>
<td>late spring/summer</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Buds removed - blooming may be delayed or not occur. Prune in late winter or early spring.</td>
<td>Flower buds were killed by cold. Move to a more protected spot; protect plant on spring nights when frost or freeze threatens.</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>But it's a reblooming hydrangea!</td>
<td>But it's a reblooming hydrangea!</td>
<td>Deer damage or low light</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not all reblooming hydrangeas are equal - some need to reach a certain height to set new wood buds. Let's Dance® reblooming hydrangeas were developed to bloom sooner.</td>
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<td>Deer damage or low light</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Still have questions about hydrangeas or other Proven Winners ColorChoice Shrubs? We're here to help you be successful in the garden! Visit www.provenwinners.com/feedback.
HYDRANGEAS DEMYSTIFIED

Which hydrangea do you grow? There are six main types of hydrangeas commonly grown in North American gardens.

### Bigleaf
(also known as florist's hydrangea, hortensia, mophead, or lacecap)

* Hydrangea macrophylla

- Hardy to USDA zone 5
- Bloom on old wood: do not prune, protect in winter

Proven Winners® varieties:
- ABRACADABRA® series
- CITYLINE® series
- EDGY® Hearts
- LET'S DANCE® series
- PARAPLU®

### Panicle
(also known as peegee hydrangea)

* Hydrangea paniculata

- Hardy to USDA zone 3
- Bloom on new wood: prune in late winter/early spring

Proven Winners® varieties:
- BOBO®, FIRE LIGHT®, 'Limelight'
- LITTLE LIME®, 'Little Lamb'
- PINKY WINKY®, QUICK FIRE®, LITTLE QUICK FIRE®, ZINFIN DOLL®

### Smooth
(also known as Annabelle hydrangea)

* Hydrangea arborescens

- Hardy to USDA zone 3
- Bloom on new wood: prune in late winter/early spring

Proven Winners® varieties:
- INCREDIBALL® series
- INVINCIBLE® Spirit series

### Climbing

* Hydrangea petiolaris

- Hardy to USDA zone 4
- Bloom on old wood: do not prune

### Mountain

* Hydrangea serrata

- Hardy to USDA zone 5
- Bloom on old wood: do not prune

Proven Winners® varieties:
- TUFF STUFF® series

### Oakleaf

* Hydrangea quercifolia

- Hardy to USDA zone 5
- Bloom on old wood: do not prune, protect in winter

Proven Winners® varieties:
- GATSBY® series

### Color

All hydrangeas undergo some color change as their flowers age, but only bigleaf and mountain hydrangeas can change their color in a predictable, controllable way. It is not solely the pH of the soil that is responsible for this change – it is actually the presence of aluminum in the soil.

- Certain varieties of bigleaf hydrangeas cannot change color. The rich red blooms of CITYLINE® Paris hydrangea are a good example. Similarly, white varieties of bigleaf hydrangea will not change color.
- It is easier to change a hydrangea from pink to blue than from blue to pink, but both endeavors involve making chemical application in specific amounts at specific times. A soil test is necessary to determine the best course of action. If you decide to try to change the flower color, shop for products carefully and read all directions.
- Pennies, nails, aluminum foil, or coffee grounds in the soil will not change the color!

### Tips for Success

- Moist but well-drained soil (hydrangeas will not tolerate wet feet – ever!)
- Some sun each day. Most people think of hydrangeas as shade plants, but they look and flower best with at least four hours of sun, ideally in the morning. Panicle hydrangeas are the most sun tolerant, and can take full sun in northern climates.
- Plenty of water, especially as they are getting established. Hydrangeas have shallow roots, so they dry out quickly. A two to three inch layer of shredded bark mulch is a useful addition to any hydrangea planting.

### Hydrangea Fun Fact

Hydrangeas are notoriously water-needy, but the "hydra" part of their name actually refers to the seed capsules’ resemblance to ancient Greek water-carrying vessels.