

## ROCKY MOUNTAINS

## Your CHECKLIST



## PLANT

Once soil thaws, plant peas. Soak seeds overnight beforehand. Good varieties for the mountain region include shelling types 'Maestro' and 'Novella'; 'Oregon Sugar Pod II' and 'Sugar Snow' snow peas; and 'Sugar Daddy Stringless' snap peas.

Plant shallot sets as soon as your soil can be worked. Shallots need a sunny spot with rich soil. Mulch the bed with a few inches of straw, and water once or twice weekly.

Start seeds of broccoli, cabbage, cauliflower, and kohlrabi indoors in a sunny window or under grow lights to have seedlings ready to go in the ground in late April or early May.

Put in bare-root perennials, roses, shrubs, and trees. Before planting, be sure to soak the roots overnight in a bucket of water placed in a spot where the water won't freeze, such as a garage.



## PROTECT

When a freeze is forecast, protect emerging foxtail lily foliage. Surround the clump with a wire tomato cage and cover with a frost blanket. Remove the covering when temperatures stay above freezing.

Prevent mite damage to lawns by watering dry spots, in



*"The red wall makes a striking backdrop for the blue spruce."*

KATHLEEN BRENZEL,  
GARDEN EDITOR

particular the areas that face south or west or are adjacent to driveways, patios, and sidewalks. Irrigate only often enough to keep the soil slightly moist, rather than soggy.



## MAINTAIN

Keep pine trees dense and compact by cutting or snapping in half new shoots while they are still supple and before they produce needles.

If you would like to move any deciduous shrubs, do it while they're still dormant, before new leaves sprout. This prevents transplant shock. Prune branches back by half and dig up as much of the rootball as possible. Replant immediately, water well, and top with several layers of mulch.



## GO

Don't miss the huge selection of hardy and tropical cactus and succulents at the Colorado Cactus and Succulent Society's annual sale and show at the Denver Botanic Gardens. \$13; Mar 29–30; 1007 York St., Denver; [ccss-online.org](http://ccss-online.org).



## GARDEN WE LOVE

*Fire and ice*

Playing off the cool blue conifer trees in this Denver garden, landscape designer Will Hyde took the rest of the palette in a warmer direction. He had the stucco wall in the back painted vibrant orange-red—"the color of California poppies," he says—and chose a metal bistro table and chairs to match. The flagstone patio and plasma-cut steel screen provide rusty tones, and low-voltage LED lighting adds moodiness throughout the space. DESIGN Mile High Landscaping, Denver; [milehighlandscaping.com](http://milehighlandscaping.com).



What grows in your climate zone? Find out at [sunset.com/zonefinder](http://sunset.com/zonefinder).