

## Clip 'n' Save - Honeysuckle

**Lonicera:** This historical favorite still smells wonderful even in late summer. An easy woody vine with a wonderful sweet fragrance over a long bloom season. I remember sucking the honey out of the base of the tubular flowers as a kid walking by masses of yellow or orange flowers. I only had to compete with the hummingbirds! Honeysuckle climbs or spreads depending on what you plant it near. It makes a lovely background plant climbing up a fence, draping down a hill, or train it up a trellis by your bedroom window for wonderful room freshening. It is Deer resistant, draws birds, hummingbirds and butterflies.



**Size:** It spreads or climbs 15-30 feet and can become invasive if ignored for too many years.

**Pruning:** Cut twining stems back after flowering to maintain the shape you want. Keep stems from surrounding young trees. Provide sturdy supports if you want it to grow up over something.

**Light Exposure:** It blossoms better in mostly sun, but it does well in part-shade also.

**How to Plant:** Honeysuckle likes abundant organic matter, in well-drained, moist to dry soil.

**Water needs:** regular water, but not soaking.

**Fertilize:** at the first sign of flowers in spring.

**Pests:** none serious, only occasionally aphids.

**Snapshot:** Honeysuckle is a very easy and practical addition to any garden. Its dense growth makes a statement, and its fragrance makes it a hit. It comes in both evergreen shrubs and deciduous vines. Flowers come in combinations of crimson, orange, yellow, pink, and white. Some varieties produce brightly colored berries.

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