

Shade Solutions - Alternatives to impatiens

Name	Alternate names	Perennial	Annual	Shade	Part Shade	Full Sun	Foliage	Flowers	Uses	Comments
Alchemilla	lady's mantle	X			X		X		border	May become weedy
Alternanthera	joseph's coat		X		X		X		container, border, groundcover	variety of colors and forms
Anemone		X			X			X	border, rock garden, patio	some prefer full sun
Aquilegia	columbine	X			X				border	also tolerates full sun, wide range of flower colors including bi-colored flowers
Astilbe		X			X			X	border	flowers in shades of white, pink, red
Astrantia	Masterwort	X			X			X	border, woodland garden	white to maroon flowers
Begonia - Rex			X		X		X		border, containers, window boxes	red green and silver foliage
Begonia - tuberous			X		X			X	border, hanging basket, window boxes	Large showy flowers in variety of colors, may become leggy in deep shade
Begonia - Winged			X		X		X	X	baskets, containers	Large interesting leaves with a variety of colors, shapes, and variegations. Flowers pink/red/white
Begonia -wax			X		X			X	bedding, border, window boxes, containers, edging	Glossy green or reddish bronze foliage also provides interest, flower color mainly pink, red or white
Brunnera	Bugloss	X		X			X	X	border, edging, woodland garden	green-variegated heart shaped leaves, baby blue flowers
Cimicifuga	Bugbane	X		X			X	X	border, backdrop	tall, green or purple leaves, foot long white flower spikes
Coleus			X	X			X		bedding, border, window box, container	Grown for colorful foliage - many shades and variations
Corynephorus	spiky blue grass		X			X	X		container, edging, borders	low growing
Dicentra	bleeding heart	X		X				X	wild flower garden, naturalistic areas	flowers in spring/early summer
Dichondra			X		X		X		containers, window boxes	trailing habit

Digitalis	Foxglove	X			X			X	border	tall cream to pink flowers, biennial
Euphorbia	cushion spurge	X				X	X		grouped in border	bright yellowish flower bracts provide additional interest
Ferns		X	X	X			X		naturalistic areas	fine textured foliage, many types
Festuca	blue fescue	X				X	X		border	can tolerate light shade
Fuchsia			X		X			X	hanging baskets, containers	trailing and upright varieties available
Galium	sweet woodruff	X		X			X	X	woodland gardens, bedding	white flowers in June-July
Geranium			X			X		X	bedding, containers, window boxes, border	can tolerate part shade
German Ivy			X	X			X		container, windowboxes	Glossy green vine
Hakonechloa	Japanese forest grass	X		X	X			X	borders, woodland gardens, containers, edges	variegated foliage colors may change depending on amount of shade
Heliotrope			X		X			X	border, window boxes, containers	purple or white flowers, usually very fragrant
Heuchera	coral bells	X		X				X	border, edging	flowers in spring and sporadically through out summer, foliage provides color and interest when plants are not flowering
Hosta		X		X				X	border, edging, rock garden	many varieties with varying green, gray and white shades of foliage, some variegated
Hypoestes			X	X				X	containers, border, bedding	green leaves with mottling of pink, red or white
Iresine			X		X			X	border, container, bedding	Grown for colorful foliage - many shades and variations
Isolepis	fiber optic grass		X		X			X	containers, border, edge of pond	tolerates sun to shade
Juncus	common rush	X				X	X		edge of pond, containers	tolerates light shade
Lamium	dead nettle, spotted dead nettle	X		X				X	border, edging	spreads easily and will fill in space given moist soil
Ligularia	Ragwort	X		X				X	border, backdrop	tall full yellow flower spikes, large dark green foliage
Lobelia			X		X			X	window boxes, hanging basket, Containers, edging, bedding, border	trailing and compact forms, blue, reddish-purple or white flowers

Lobularia	sweet alyssum		X			X		X	edging, window boxes, hanging baskets, rock garden, border	tolerates light shade, flowers may be fragrant, white, violet or pink flowers	
Izula	snowy woodrush	X			X	X	X		woodland garden, beds, borders, ground cover	Clump-forming and grasslike	
Mandevilla			X		X			X	containers	need something to grow on like a trellis	
Myosotis	Forget-me-not	X			X			X	naturalistic areas, rock garden, perennial beds	usually blue flowers, may escape cultivation	
New Guinea impatiens			X		X			X	containers, window boxes, hanging baskets, borders	wide range of flower colors, can tolerate full sun	
Nicotiana	Flowering tobacco		X			X		X	border, bedding	flower colors mainly pink, white, red, can also tolerate light shade	
Perilla	shiso, beef steak plant		X		X			X	containers, beds, borders,	Grown for colorful foliage - many shades and variations, some varieties used as herbs	
Petunia			X			X		x	bedding, border, window box, containers	flowers come in variety of colors and forms (single, double etc), some plants trail some upright, broadspreading	
Plectranthus	swedish ivy		X		X			X	hanging baskets, containers, window boxes	variegated leaf, use in combinations in sun or shade	
Polemonium	Jacob's Ladder	X			X			X	X	border, woodland garden	leaves green or variegated with white and or pink, blue flowers
Primula	Primrose	X			X				X	bedding, border, edging	large bright showy flowers in a variety of colors.
Pulmonaria	Lungwort	X			X			X	X	border, edging, woodland garden	pink to blue flowers, leaves variegated with white in pattern that depends on variety.
Rhoea	oyster plant		X		X			X		container, beds, borders	can cause allergic rash in dogs and people
Salvia - annual	Scarlet Sage		X			X				bedding, border	can also tolerate light shade, usually bright red flower
Sedum - creeping	creeping stonecrop	X				X	X	X		rock gardens, borders, groundcover	Succulent plants with upright or prostrate forms, variety of leaf and flower colors

Spreading Impatiens - Sunpatiens			X			X		X	containers, borders, beds, hanging baskets, window box	This is a form of New Guinea impatiens that looks very similar to I. walleriana
Stipa	korean feather grass	X				X	X		beds, borders	Grass with varying heights and large feather like plumes above foliage
Talinum	fameflower, jewels of opar		X		X			X	containers, window boxes, beds and borders	Succulent, drought tolerant plant with pink flowers
Torenia			x		x			x	border, window boxes, containers	Can tolerate full sun
Vinca minor	common periwinkle	X			X		X	X	ground cover, border edges, mass plantings especially on slopes or hillsides	flowers mainly in May and June then sporadically through out summer
Viola	pansy		X		X				border, window boxes, rock garden, containers	variety of colors and forms, may get scraggly and need to be cut back