



Low-maintenance front gardens without gravel

What is it about?

Front yards can be low maintenance even without gravel areas, while providing food and habitat for insects.

Recommendations for low-maintenance front gardens

To keep maintenance to a minimum, plant evergreen ground covers with individual prostate shrubs. The planting of flower meadows/herb lawns is particularly suitable in sunny, nutrient-poor locations.

The more maintenance time that can be invested, the more creative the design of the additional perennial planting can be.

Ideally, use a variety of perennial, native plants without double flowers to provide insects with a rich pollen and nectar supply. If possible, use plants of regional origin from organic cultivation. Perennial, regional seeds are preferable for seeding.



Background

Gravel surfaces are not only hostile to nature, they are also, contrary to what is assumed, only easy to maintain in the short term: after a few years, plant parts form enough humus so that initial colonizers such as frugal grasses, tree seedlings, mosses, etc. cannot establish themselves.

In contrast to sealing, plantings make a valuable contribution to temperature regulation: while leaf surfaces cool the environment through the evaporation of water, stone surfaces store heat and continue to radiate it into the night.



Further recommendations

Use peat-free soil. It is best to apply only a compost/humus/sand mixture (in a ratio of 1 to 2), because native wild plants are true survivors and are adapted to nutrient-poor soils. The richer the soil, the greater the potential for weeds.

Front yards can be additionally enriched with nesting aids and/or small watering holes to make this habitat even more insect-friendly.

