Bumblebee Conservation Trust

Bee the Change

March guide: What to plant this month

Mint

Bugle

Hardy geranium

Nasturtium

Pick a plant	Buy me as…	Plant me here…	I like a spot that's…	I flower around…	Bonus feature
Mints *(Mentha spp.)*	potted plant	container (plant spreads)	sunny	July–Sept	My leaves are delicious in your food and drink. **Mint tea, anyone?**
Bugle *(Ajuga reptans)*	potted plant	container (plant spreads)	partly shady	April–May	I'm the **'bumblebee friendship plant'**! I grow extra 'mini plants' with their own roots – cut them off, pop in a pot, and gift to a friend if you like.
Hardy geranium/ Cranesbill geranium *(Geranium spp.)*	potted plant	container or ground	sunny / partly shady	April–Sept	As my name suggests, I'm very hard to kill! I can **keep flowering** until the first winter frost to give bumblebees lots to eat.
Nasturtium *(Tropaeolum majus)* Pronounced 'nast-er-shum'	seeds	ground	sunny	June–Sept	My seeds are big and fun to grow, **especially with children**. My trailing and dwarf varieties (like 'Tom Thumb') are also great for hanging baskets and small pots.

Key: potted plant | seeds | ground | container (plant spreads) | container or ground | sunny | partly shady

Bumblebees need lots of flowers to feed on. Give them a helping hand by adding just one of these bumblebee favourites to your outdoor space in March. It doesn't matter whether you have a garden, a window box or just a flower pot.

Our top picks are all easy to look after, and great for beginner gardeners. Simply wait for them to flower later this year, then enjoy watching your local bumblebees feeding!

For more planting ideas, try our interactive Bee kind tool **beekind.bumblebeeconservation.org**

🔊 Listen using '**Read Out Loud**' in Adobe Acrobat Reader.

Top tips:

- Wait until frosty mornings have stopped before you plant anything outdoors, or start growing plants indoors instead.

- Read the instruction label on your new plant or seeds for the best way to look after them.

- Always try to choose **organic**, **pesticide-free** plants and seeds – these are best for bumblebees.

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