

# Kershaw County Planning and Zoning Department

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## APPROVED GROWDCOVERS FOR KERSHAW COUNTY

Common Name Botanical Name	Description	Height	Light	Growing Conditions
<a href="#">Ivy</a> ( <i>Hedera</i> species)	Evergreen, shiny leaves. There are many varieties, cultivars and several species of ivy available with a variety of leaf forms, patterns and colors.	6 to 12 inches	Partial shade	Moist, well-drained soil. Can be extremely vigorous. Small-leaved or variegated cultivars may be less invasive.
<a href="#">Pachysandra</a> ( <i>Pachysandra</i> species)	Dense evergreen that spreads by underground runners. Effectively crowds out many weeds. The native <i>P. procumbens</i> has marbled leaves and fragrant flowers.	6 to 9 inches	Part to full shade	Prefers moist, fertile, slightly acid, organic soil. Competes well with tree roots. Best in the Midlands and Upstate.
Beach Wormwood ( <i>Artemisia stellerana</i> )	Dense, spreading semi- evergreen with soft silver gray leaves.	1 to 2 feet	Full sun	Drought-tolerant. Needs well-drained soil and good air circulation. Will not tolerate excessive moisture.
<a href="#">Confederate Jasmine</a> ( <i>Trachelospermum jasminoides</i> )	Dark, evergreen leaves. Fragrant white flowers in late spring. 'Madison' is a hardy cultivar. <i>T. asiaticum</i> has yellow flowers and is also hardier.	1½ to 2 feet	Part shade	Moist, well-drained soil. Fast growing. When grown for groundcover, clip or mow yearly to keep dense and low.
Willowleaf Cotoneaster ( <i>Cotoneaster salicifolia</i> )	Lustrous, wide-spreading, evergreen with white flowers and small red fruit. Groundcover varieties include 'Repens' and 'Emerald Carpet'.	12 inches	Full sun	Tolerates poor soil and drought. Plant where it will have plenty of room to spread since pruning gives an awkward look.
<a href="#">Periwinkle</a> ( <i>Vinca minor</i> )	Trailing evergreen with dark green foliage and purple, blue or white flowers in April. <i>V. major</i> is more aggressive with larger leaves and flowers. It will mound up to 2 feet.	3 to 6 inches	Sun or shade	Prefers moist, well-drained soil, but tolerates a wide variety of soil conditions. If plantings mound up too high or become layered with old stems, shear or mow them in late winter.
<a href="#">Carolina Jessamine</a> ( <i>Gelsemium sempervirens</i> )	Evergreen, may turn bronze in winter in colder areas. Golden yellow flowers in spring.	Up to 3 feet	Full sun or part shade	Can be used on steep banks to help control erosion. Maintain with a yearly cutting in late spring after flowering.
<a href="#">Carpet Bugle, Ajuga</a> ( <i>Ajuga reptans</i> )	Green, purple or variegated evergreen leaves. Blue flowers on spikes in spring. Spreads quickly.	6 inches	Full sun to part shade	Mow after flowering to remove stems and tidy up appearance. May become invasive in turf.
Cast Iron Plant ( <i>Aspidistra eliator</i> )	Long, tall, dark evergreen leathery leaves. There is a white-edged variety.	1 to 2½ feet	Part to very deep shade	Will live in difficult situations, in almost any soil. Does best in mid-state and coastal areas.
Plumbago ( <i>Ceratostigma plumbaginoides</i> )	Deep blue flowers in late summer. Foliage turns reddish in fall and winter. Spreads underground.	6 to 12 inches	Sun or light shade	Prefers moderately fertile, well-drained soil. Good bulb cover. Mow to ground in late winter.
Cheddar Pink ( <i>Dianthus gratianopolitanus</i> )	Blue green to gray green needlelike evergreen foliage covered by very fragrant white or pink flowers in spring.	9 to 12 inches in bloom.	Full sun	Well-drained soil. Do not overwater. Trim after flowering. This species is the most tolerant of heat and humidity.

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<a href="#">Juniper</a> ( <i>Juniperus</i> species)	Needled evergreens with many cultivars and species of varying foliage color, texture, height and form.	Height varies by cultivar	Full sun	Well-drained, moderately dry soil. Shore juniper tolerates seashore conditions.
Creeping Phlox ( <i>Phlox subulata</i> )	Tiny needlelike, evergreen foliage is covered by pink, rose, lavender or white flowers in early spring.	6 inches	Full sun	Well-drained soil that is not overly rich. Shear lightly after flowering is finished.
Barrenwort ( <i>Epimedium</i> species)	Clumps of evergreen or semi-evergreen heart-shaped leaves with dainty crimson, yellow or white flowers in early spring.	6 to 18 inches	Shade or part shade	Prefers moist, well-drained soil, but will tolerate growing in amongst tree roots. Cut back in late winter.
Green and Gold ( <i>Chrysogonum virginianum</i> )	Starry, yellow flowers in spring.	4 to 12 inches	Part shade	Prefers average soils, adequate moisture.
<a href="#">Holly Fern</a> ( <i>Cytomium falcatum</i> )	Evergreen, leathery and glossy dark-green leaves. Spreads moderately.	1½ to 2 feet	Shade	Well-drained, slightly acidic, moderately moist soil with high organic matter.
Lamb's Ears ( <i>Stachys byzantina</i> )	Large, soft furry gray leaves are topped with spikes of purple flowers in late spring.	6 to 8 inches in leaf, 18 inches in flower	Full sun to high open shade	Well-drained soil. 'Silver Carpet' does not flower. 'Big Ears' is most tolerant of humidity.
<a href="#">Lantana</a> ( <i>Lantana</i> species)	Rapid-growing with a long bloom season. Flowers are often multi-colored, yellow, red and orange. Pink, lavender and white are also available. All attract butterflies.	Shrub lantanas to 3 feet; creeping lantana to 12 to 18 inches	Full sun	Well-drained soil, drought-tolerant when mature. Will grow well near the beach. Do not overfertilize. Prune back hard in spring to remove dead wood. Best in mid-state and coast. 'Miss Huff' is hardy in Upstate.
Lily-of-the-Valley ( <i>Convallari majalisa</i> )	Dark green leaves turn yellow in fall. Fragrant, white, bell-shaped flowers.	8 inches	Shade	Prefers moist, fertile, organic soil. Spreads vigorously by underground rhizomes.
<a href="#">Lilyturf, Liriope</a> ( <i>Liriope</i> species)	Evergreen, grass-like leaves with purple, lilac or white flower spikes. Some cultivars have leaves edged in yellow or white.	9 to 12 inches	Sun or shade	Prefers moderately moist soil. Low maintenance once established. Trim or mow in early spring.
<a href="#">Mondo Grass</a> ( <i>Ophipogon japonicus</i> )	Evergreen, grass-like leaves similar to liriope, but more slender.	4 to 12 inches	Sun or shade	Prefers moderately moist soil. Low maintenance once established. Trim or mow in early spring.
Creeping Rosemary ( <i>Rosmarinus officinalis 'Prostratus'</i> )	Evergreen, with aromatic, needlelike foliage. Pale blue flowers in spring.	12 to 36 inches	Full sun	Requires very good drainage. On heavy, clay soil, it is more susceptible to winter damage.
Lavender Cotton ( <i>Santolina chamaecyparissus</i> )	Low mounded evergreen shrub, with fine-textured gray-green foliage. Tiny yellow flowers in June.	1 to 2 feet	Sun	Well-drained soil. Avoid frequent watering. Can be sheared.
Sweet Box ( <i>Sarcococca hookeriana humilis</i> )	Low, creeping evergreen. Tiny, sweetly scented flowers in winter.	12 to 15 inches	Light to heavy shade	Moist soil amended with plenty of organic matter.
Purple Heart ( <i>Setcreasea purpurea</i> )	Trailing, fleshy deep purple stems and leaves with lavender to purple flowers.	1 to 1½ feet	Shade or sun	Purple heart thrives in heat and drought conditions. In colder parts of the state, the top freezes in winter but it resprouts from the roots.
St. John's-Wort ( <i>Hypericum</i> species)	Spreading shrubby evergreen or semi-evergreen with bright yellow flowers in mid-summer.	1 to 3 feet	Full sun or part shade.	Well-drained soil. Excellent for covering slopes. Cut to ground level in spring to rejuvenate.

Clemson Extension Service  
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