

Easiest Alpines

for beginners

Alpines

Achillea ageratifolia (Ahkil'ee a ahjera'ti fole ee a)

An elegant white on white plant
White flowers, silvery white leaves
Larger than most rock garden plants but acceptable

Androsace (Andrah'sa see) lanuginosa

Vigorous plant from the Himalayas
Long summer bloom
Hardy to Zone 4
Give it a foot to sprawl

Armeria maritima

Fine-textured grassy mat
White, red or pink flowers

Aubrieta

Purple flowers
Cut back after flowering to maintain compact form

Dianthus (Ex.: 'Rose Dawn' or 'Tiny Rubies')

Choose the small-flower forms of Dianthus

Draba siberica (Dray'ba)

Sunny site
Makes extensive mats
Found on rocky slopes in China and Mongolia

Erigeron scopulinum (Erij'eron)

Long lasting blooms
Wonderful in rock crevices
Forms tight mats

Erinus alpinus (Erine'us)

Found in mountains in Spain and in stone walls in Ireland
Self sows in nooks and crannies
White, pink or rosy-purple flowers

Gypsophila repens 'Creeping Baby's Breath'

Pink flowers
Let this cascade over a wall or over the side of a trough

Iberis sempervirens

White flowers in spring
Green mounds of foliage the rest of the year

Lavandula angustifolia

Gives a nice textural contrast in a rock garden or trough
Will have to be moved when it gets too big



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Easiest Applines

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Leontopodium alpinum 'Edelweiss'

Soft gray-green foliage
White woolly bracts

Lewisia cotyledon

A native found by Lewis during the Lewis and Clark treks
Pink, white, orange, salmon; some candy striped
Sprinkle grit around the crown
Likes afternoon shade

Linum

From the mountains of Bulgaria
Yellow blossoms
Abundant flowering in late spring

Saponaria ocymoides 'Soapwort'

Spreading mat
Pink flowers in late spring
Cut back hard after flowering



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