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## RENEW AND REFRESH PERENNIAL FLOWERS BY DIVIDING

The savvy gardener knows that perennials are a great choice for gardens because with care they have long lives. Some plants like Peonies can go decades without dividing, but others like to be divided every couple of years. There are two sure signs your plant is ready to divide: (1) you are getting fewer blooms; and (2) as they age, the center of the plant will start to die out.

- **Plants to Divide in the Spring:** Chrysanthemum, Phlox, Salvia and Sedum
- **Plants to Divide in late Summer or Fall:** Bearded Iris, Lilies, Peonies
- **Hostas and Daylilies** can be divided almost any time

### How to Divide Your Perennials

Source: [www.costafarms.com/blog](http://www.costafarms.com/blog)

#### Materials

- Garden fork or spade
- Pruning shears
- Knife

**Step 1: Dig Around the Plant.** Take your fork or spade and dig deeply around the circumference of the plant leaving as much soil around the roots as you can.

**Step 2: Lift Plant from Ground.** Gently lift the entire plant out of the ground and place it in a wheelbarrow or on a potting bench where you can handle it easily.



#### Step 3: Snip Off Dead and Divide.

Use your pruning shears to clip away the dead and dying foliage. After that, take your knife or sharp spade and begin cutting the plant into smaller sections, making sure each section has at least several sets of leaves and an attached root system. Toss away any dead you find.

**Step 4: Replant Divisions.** Replant the divisions as soon as possible. If you have extra divisions, pot them up and give them away to friends and family. After all the divisions are replanted, water thoroughly and mulch the area to minimize weed competition. By next year or two each new division will produce a fresh bouquet of blooms.

