

PROTEAS FOR SPRING

When it comes to spectacular displays in the spring garden, it's hard to go past the Protea family. The coloured foliage of *Leucadendron*, the dainty paper like flowers of *Blushing Bride* and the bold, bright *Leucospermum* pincushions bring spring gardens to life.

These plants are easy to grow, low maintenance, don't require a great deal of water and fit in well with contemporary landscapes. They also produce long-lasting, spectacular cut flowers.

For the patio, *Blushing Bride* makes an elegant display with buds and flowers right through spring. Grow it in a container, follow the simple care instructions and it will flower for you every spring. A new protea for the patio is *Little Prince* which is a miniature version of the huge *King Protea*. It flowers throughout the cooler months and can also be grown in the garden.

In the garden, the red *Leucadendrons* add vibrant colour during winter and spring. *Red Devil* and *Devil's Blush* are great little plants (up to about a metre) and can be used for borders or as a feature. They can be shaped to suit just about any position. And if its proteas for screening that you're after, the much taller *Safari Sunset* or *Silvan Red* are perfect.



Carnival Red (above), Devils Blush (below)

