



## Gardening Jobs in February

- Plan what you want to grow for the season ahead and purchase seed accordingly. (Don't forget to come to our Grow Your Own Days for help and advice and special offers!).
- Chit early potatoes for about 4 to 6 weeks prior to planting.
- Apply lime to veg beds where you intend to plant brassicas – this needs to be done a couple of months before planting so February is the best month.
- Prepare your seed bed by covering with fleece or cloches to warm the soil ready for planting in March.
- Some seeds that can be sown under cover are: broad beans, lettuce, summer cabbage, cauliflower, radish, spinach, salad onions and peas. Ornamentals include begonias, sweet peas, snapdragons and pelargoniums.
- Prune clematis that flower after June (group 3) back to a good pair of buds about 18" above the ground. Apply a general feed after pruning.
- Now is a good time to move any shrubs that are in the wrong place - this can be a major task if the shrub has outgrown its position so make sure you plan the job well. Dig as much of the root ball out as possible and wrap in hessian before moving to the new spot.
- Top-dress plants in pots and containers. Remove the top layer of compost and replace with fresh.
- Finish pruning deciduous trees before the sap starts to rise. Use a seal and heal compound to prevent disease getting in to the areas where larger branches have been removed. It's also a good idea to feed any trees and shrubs that you have pruned. Use a general feed such as fish, blood and bone or pelleted poultry manure.
- Cut autumn fruiting raspberries back to 6" above the ground.
- Keep feeding the birds in the garden. Mid-February is good time to put up nesting boxes to encourage more birds into your garden in the season ahead.

*This information is intended for guidance purposes only. We are happy to give help and advice on most gardening topics at the garden centre.*

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