

Buyer's Guide / Gardening gloves



Geoff Hodge looks for a helping hand in the garden

THERE are some gardeners who swear by wearing gardening gloves. There are others, like me, who swear at wearing gardening gloves! At least, that was my feeling before embarking on the tests for this Buyer's Guide.

In the past, I'd always thought that they were cumbersome, unnatural things that just got in the way, and if I picked up blisters and calluses or something nasty in the soil or thorns when pruning, then that was one of the risks of the job. But now I think I'm becoming a bit of a convert.

The range of gardening gloves available today is astronomical and there are types that match the gardening job you're doing with the right level of protection, dexterity and so on. Taking time to choose the right kind of glove for the task is essential, because they can either help or hinder.

Previously, for fine, delicate work - such as pricking out or hand weeding - gloves could be a nuisance, but modern technology has produced thinner materials that make better-fitting gloves designed to perform well and protect your hands at the same time.

For pruning roses and other prickly plants, you'll need a pair of gloves that are tough enough to withstand the spines, but supple enough to allow you to use your secateurs and other pruning tools properly.

And, of course, it's important to buy the right size, so that the gloves fit like a second hand - or even like a glove!

I decided to look at general-purpose gloves that could be used for a variety of different gardening jobs, but were especially dexterous, so I could feel what I was doing.

Briers All Rounder Gloves

Latex-coated cotton with elasticated wrist cuff. Some thorn protection. Rough surface gives good wet or dry grip.

- Sizes small, medium, large
- Price £4.29
- Others available Professional Gloves £12.59, Seeding Gloves £3.99, among others



Gardman All Purpose Protection Gloves

Latex-coated cotton with elasticated wrist cuff. Some thorn protection. Rough surface gives good wet or dry grip.

- Sizes large
- Price £4.99
- Others available Extra Grip Work Gloves £1.99, Reinforced Padded Work Gloves £12.99, among others



CSM Nitropalm Nitrile Gardening Gloves

Nitrile rubber-coated cotton provides good grip, dexterity and abrasion and chemical resistance. Elasticated wrist cuff.

- Sizes five from Xsmall-Xlarge
- Price £4.45; three pairs for only £10
- Others available Lilac Garden Chic Gardening Gloves £5.95, Lilac Chic Thornmaster £5.95, among others



Gold Leaf Soft Touch Gloves

Palms made from soft, supple high grain leather, back made from Lycra, nylon and foam providing good protection, durability and dexterity. Velcro wrist cuff fastening.

- Sizes ladies, gents
- Price £19.95
- Others available Dry Touch £17.95, Tough Touch £23.95, Winter Touch £21.95

Planto Comfort Grip Gardening Gloves

Soft fleece provides warmth, and the micro anti-slip dots on palms and fingers give a secure grip. Elasticated wrist cuff.

- Sizes medium, large
- Price £4.99 for two pairs



Showa Floreo 370 Gloves

Nitrile rubber-coated nylon provides good grip, dexterity and abrasion and chemical resistance.

- Elasticated wrist cuff.
- Sizes small, medium, large
- Price £6.99
- Others available Opti Grip 340, Thornmaster 350, Nitrile Pro 720



Yeoman Advanced Gripper Gloves

Nitrile rubber-coated polycotton provides good grip, dexterity and abrasion and chemical resistance. Elasticated wrist cuff.

- Sizes small/medium
- Price £7.49
- Others available Garden Gloves £7.49



Wolf-Garten Washable Soil Care Gloves

Nitrile rubber-coated polycotton provides good grip, dexterity and abrasion and chemical resistance. Elasticated wrist cuff.

- Sizes small, medium, large
- Price £4.99
- Others available Washable Potting Gloves £4.99, Washable House & Garden Gloves £12.99, Washable Pruning Gloves £24.99

Suppliers

- Briers 01666 511457 www.briersltd.co.uk
- Centre Sales 01527 832092 www.centresalesgloves.co.uk
- Gardman 01406 372227 www.gardman.co.uk
- Supplies direct to garden centres and stores.

- Gold Leaf from Jayco 0238 040 2025 www.goldleaf-gloves.com
- Planto from Wellington and Barrow 0844 335 0361 www.wellingtonandbarrow.com
- Showa from Globus 0161 877 4747 www.yourglobus.com

- Town & Country 01530 830990 www.townandco.com
- Mail order: 0800 085 0005 www.birstall.com
- Wolf-Garten from E P Barrus 0845 270 7603 www.wolf-garten.co.uk
- Yeoman 01905 791984 www.yeomangarden.com
- Supplies direct to garden centres and stores.

Lilies for free
Follow our simple propagation guide to increase your lily stocks **Page 13**

Water lily dahlias
Recommended varieties for spectacular garden displays **Page 21**

www.gardennewsmagazine.co.uk

Town & Country Professional Weed Master Plus Gloves

Nitrile rubber-coated polycotton provides good grip, dexterity and abrasion and chemical resistance. Velcro wrist cuff fastening.

- Sizes men: medium, large; women: small, medium
- Price £5.99
- Others available Professional Master Gardener £5.99, Premium Suede Leather £8.99, among others



Win a pair of our 'best buy' gloves

WE HAVE 25 pairs of the Town & Country 'best buy' gloves to give away! Send your name and address to Garden News Gardening Gloves Giveaway, Media House, Peterborough Business Park, Peterborough PE2 6EA or enter online at www.greatcompetitions.co.uk Closing date is September 20. Please write 'do not contact' if you don't want to be contacted by us or by carefully selected partner organisations.

• Please also let us have your size/colour preference: men medium or large; women in pink or lime and small or medium.

Win a pack of spring bulbs!



10 PACKS TO GIVE AWAY

TO CELEBRATE their involvement with Floriade 2012, the wonderful floral extravaganza that opens next spring, The International Flower Bulb Centre is giving GN readers the opportunity to win one of 10 packs of mixed spring flowering bulbs. Floriade is a World Horticultural Exposition which happens only once

every 10 years in the Netherlands and dozens of countries participate. This year, more than 100 exhibitors will stage magnificent displays in the Netherlands Venlo region. The exhibition runs from April to October 2012 and you can enjoy the world's most exquisite flowers, plants, trees and fruit and vegetables as well as

immerse yourself in a cultural programme of music, dance, literature, theatre and visual art from all over the world. With countless exciting, innovative and educational attractions and activities, Floriade 2012 is a spectacular voyage of discovery for all the family. For more information go to www.floriade.com

For your chance to be a winner, send your name and address on a postcard or the back of a sealed envelope to: Garden News Floriade Giveaway, PO Box 57, Coates, Peterborough PE7 2FE or enter online at www.greatcompetitions.co.uk

The closing date is September 20.

This prize draw is open to residents of the UK only, aged 18 years or over, except employees of Bauer Consumer Media Ltd or anyone else

professionally associated with the prize draw/competition. All prizes are non transferable and there are no cash alternatives. For full terms and conditions, please write to the editorial address on page 8.

Bauer Media, publishers of Garden News may like to contact you by post or phone. Please write 'do not contact' if you do not wish to be contacted by us or carefully selected partner organisations.

Don't miss our guide to the most colourful spring bulbs around! This week, in part 3, we feature tulips - starting on page 16