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Plants for around pools Fact Sheet

Points to ponder in choosing plants for around pools....

- Natural climate and sun/ frost for each site
- Whether pool is salt water, chlorine or naturally filtered and if there is likelihood of water inundation on both foliage and root zone. (naturally this is best avoided)
- Using plants that do not drop foliage or flowers over a long period. Sometime a deciduous plant might be a better choice than some evergreens that shed all throughout the year. Deciduous plants naturally drop all their leaves in a short space of time.
- Clump forming accent plants are quite low maintenance as they do not tend to drop foliage – it will need to be removed periodically
- Avoid fine foliage
- Avoid recurrent flowering plants or plants that produce copious berries
- Avoid bamboo as they do drop heaps of foliage

Please note this list is intended only as a starting point – there are plenty of alternatives!



Plant List summary

Trees

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[Magnolia 'Little Gem' - Mlg](#)

[Eleaocarpus reticulatus 'Prima Donna' - Erp](#)

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[Plumeria rubra - Pru](#)

[Acer palmatum 'sango kaku' - Apsk](#)

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Shrubs

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Shrubs for shade

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Groundcovers

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[Aptinia cordifolia - Aco](#)

[Trachelospermum jasminoides 'Tricolour' - Tjt](#)

Tradescantia spathacea - Tsp

Sedum – ground covering forms - Sgf

Soleirolia soleirolii - Sso

Feature plants for strappy foliage

Aoenemium 'Swartzkop' Asz

Aechmea cylindrata - Aeccyl

Agave attenuata - Agt

Alcantarea imperialis 'Purpurea' - Aipp

Alcantarea imperialis 'Rubra' Alcimp

Alocasia macrorrhiza - Alomac

Aloe vera - Ave

Cordyline 'Red Sister' - Corred

Cordyline 'Cherry Sensation' - Ccse

Cordyline 'Sundance' - Csun

Dianella caerulea - Diacae

Dianella tasmanica 'Variegata' - Dtv

Dracaena draco - Dradra

Dichorisandra thyrsifolia - Dth

Lomandra 'Tanika' - Ltan

Lomandra confertifolia - Lco

Lomandra glauca 'Blue Ridge' - Lgbr

Phormium 'Flamin' - Ptf

Phormium 'Surfer Boy' - Psb

Phormium 'Copper Shot' - Phocop

Phormium tenax - Pte


Phormium tenax 'Purpurea' - Ptp

Phormium tenax 'Variegata' - Pty


Strelitzia reginae - Sre



Zoysia tenuifolia - Zte

Trees


<i>Cercis siliquastrum</i> - Csi		
Common name	Judas tree	
Height 5m		
Diameter - 4m		
Main features	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Winter flowering• Heart shaped foliage• Hardy• Historical significance	

<i>Magnolia 'Little Gem' - Mlg</i>		
Common name	Little Gem	
Height 4m		
Diameter - 2m		
Main features	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Lemon scented flowers all year round• Dark glossy leaves with russet reverse• Evergreen• Can prune to desired shape	




<i>Eleaocarpus reticulatus</i> 'Prima Donna' - Erp		
Common name	Blue quandong	 
Height 7m		
Diameter – 3.5m		
Main features	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Horizontal branches• Evergreen• Bird attracting blue berries• Pink flowers• Stunning foliage	


<i>Olea europaea</i> - Oeur		
Common name	Olive	
Height 5m		
Diameter - 4m		
Main features	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• superb grey foliage• fruit is useful• gnarled old trunks on old specimens• waterwise• prolific flowers for many months• well suited to climate• evergreen• can be pruned to shape	

A photograph of a large, mature olive tree (Olea europaea) with a thick, gnarled trunk and a dense, spreading canopy of green foliage. The tree is situated in an open, dry area with other trees in the background under a clear blue sky.


***Plumeria rubra* - Pru**

Common name	Chinese Frangipani	
Height 4m		
Diameter - 4m		
Main features	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Deciduous tree• White fragrant flowers in summer• Tropical look• Frost tender• Sculptural branch framework• grows best in full sun, being intolerant of shade	


***Acer palmatum 'sango kaku'* - Apsk**

Common name	Red stemmed Japanese maple	
Height 4 m		
Diameter - 3m		
Main features	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Lovely red stems especially in winter• Interesting open lacy habit• Spectacular spring and autumn foliage – lime in spring and yellow in autumn• Easily pruned to shape annually	

***Acer palmatum 'Aka Shigitatsu Sawa'* - Ace aka**


Common name	Red stemmed Japanese maple	
Height 4 m		
Diameter - 3m		
Main features	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Lovely red stems especially in winter• Interesting open lacy habit• Spectacular spring and autumn foliage – lime in spring and yellow in autumn• Easily pruned to shape annually	

Acer palmatum 'Shaina'


Common name	Dwarf Japanese maple	
Height 2 m		
Diameter - 2m		
Main features	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Lovely red foliage in spring, summer and autumn• Naturally compact• Easily pruned to shape annually	


Shrubs


Banksia 'Birthday Candles' - Bbi

Common name	Dwarf banksia	
Height .5m		
Diameter - 1m		
Main features	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• bird attracting• interesting foliage• good contrast plant	


Grevillea lanigera – Mt Tamoritha form - Glm

Common name	Woolly Grevillea	
Height 1m		
Diameter - 1m		
Main features	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• pale salmon flowers all year• Evergreen• Hardy when established• Summer pruning to shape only maintenance.• waterwise	


<i>Hypericum patulum</i> - Hpa		
Common name	Golden money wort	
Height 1m		
Diameter - .6m		
Main features	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Traditional Chinese plant• Gold flowers over many months• Frost hardy and drought hardy• Prune to shape• Full sun or part shade	

<i>Plectranthus 'Mona Lavender'</i> - Plemon		
Common name	Mona lavender	
Height 1m		
Diameter – 1m		
Main features	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dark purple foliage• Prolific long lasting flowers most of the year• Tolerates full sun or shade• Frost hardy to -1C• Prune to keep compact• Good contrast plant	


Rhapiolepis 'Oriental Pearl' - Rhaori

Common name	Oriental Pearl Indian hawthorn	
Height .6m		
Diameter - .6 m		
Main features	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• White flowers in early spring• Sterile and non-invasive• Fire retardant• glossy leaves year round• Hardy when established• Summer pruning to shape• waterwise	


Russellia 'Lemon Falls' - Rlf


Common name	Lemon coral bush	
Height 1m		
Diameter - 1m		
Main features	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Weeping foliage• Year round flowering of tubular flowers• Prune to shape annually• waterwise	


***Elaeagnus pungens* - Epu**

Common name	Elaeagnus	
Height 2m		
Diameter - 2m		
Main features	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Tough interesting foliage• Dense habit• Drought hardy• Good hedging plant• Variegated form also shown (front of picture)	


***Abelia 'Kaleidoscope'* - Agk**


Common name	Variegated Abelia	
Height 1m		
Diameter - 1m		
Main features	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• white flowers in summer• tri coloured interesting foliage• tough• 	

<i>Nandina 'Gulf Stream' - Ngs</i>		
Common name	Mid size nandina	
Height 1m		
Diameter - 1m		
Main features	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Hardy and waterwise• Attractive bamboo like foliage• Non invasive• Red colour in winter	



<i>Xylosma congestum - Xco</i>		
Common name	Xylosma	
Height 2m		
Diameter - 2m		
Main features	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Evergreen – bronzy new growth• Fire retardant• glossy leaves year round• Hardy when established• waterwise	

Shrubs for shade


<i>Aucuba japonica</i> - Aja		
Common name	Japanese holly	
Height 2m		
Diameter - 2m		
Main features	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Grows well in deep shade• Variegated vaguely holly like leaves• Red berries in winter• Very hardy in cold conditions	

<i>Fatsia japonica</i> - Fja		
Common name	False aralia	
Height 1m		
Diameter - .6m		
Main features	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Tolerates full shade• Tolerates deep shade and shallow soil• Drought hardy once established• Deep green lobed leaves	


Schefflera arboricola 'Jacqueline' - Saj


Common name	Variegated dwarf umbrella	
Height 2m		
Diameter - 2m		
Main features 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Large shrubs well suited to shade • Frost tender • tough 	

Philodendron 'Xanadu' - Pxa


Common name	Xanadu	
Height .5m		
Diameter - .5m		
Main features 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Glossy tropical foliage • Waterwise • Low maintenance • Really compact growth habit 	

Groundcovers


<i>Convolvulus cneorum</i> - Ccn		
Common name	Silver leaf convolvulus	
Height .3m		
Diameter - .6m		
Main features	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Low maintenance• Great silver foliage• Can be pruned to shape• White flowers in spring• waterwise	

<i>Juniperus confertus</i> - Jco		
Common name	Shore juniper	
Height .3m		
Diameter – 1.5m		
Main features	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• low groundcover• evergreen• weed suppressing• Fire retardant• hardy when established• waterwise	


***Alternanthera dentata* - Allden**

Common name	Purple alternanthera	
Height .4m		
Diameter - .6m		
Main features	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Purple foliage• Good for shady moist spots or part sun spots• Prune to shade• Can be used as a hedge• hardy	


***Aptinia cordifolia* - Aco**

Common name	Ice plant	
Height .3m		
Diameter - .6m		
Main features	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Evergreen• Fire retardant• Green succulent foliage• Red flowers most of the year• Trailing habit• Hardy when established• waterwise	


Trachelospermum jasminoides 'Tricolour' - Tjt

Common name	Tricolour Chinese star		
Height .4m			
Diameter - 1m			
Main features	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• White flowers in early summer• Red, white and green evergreen foliage• Fire retardant• glossy leaves year round• Hardy when established• Summer pruning to shape only maintenance.• waterwise		

Tradescantia spathacea - Tsp

Common name	Moses in a basket	
Height .3m		
Diameter - .6m		
Main features	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Foliage plant for shady spots• Likes moisture• hardy	

Sedum – ground covering forms - Sgf


Common name	Ground covering succulents	
Height .3m		
Diameter - .6m		
Main features	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Waterwise• Available in yellow, green and purple forms• Full sun or part shade	

Soleirolia soleirolii - Sso


Common name	Babies tears	
Height .1m		
Diameter - .6m		
Main features	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Shady moist spots only• Good moss substitute• Foliage plant	


Feature plants for strappy foliage

<i>Aoenemium 'Swartzkop' Asz</i>		
Common name	Swarkzkop	
Height .5m		
Diameter - .5m		
Main features	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Great purple foliage• Yellow cone like flowers• Good for contrast or accent plant	


<i>Aechmea cylindrata</i> - Aeccyl		
Common name	Matchstick bromeliad	
Height .4m		
Diameter - .3m		
Main features	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Hardy epiphyte for shade or morning sun• Interesting flowers for much of the year• Unstoppable• Remove old growth once per year	

<i>Agave attenuata</i> - Agt		
Common name	Agave	
Height 1m		
Diameter - 1m		
Main features	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Evergreen• Fire retardant• Grey green interesting foliage• Hardy when established• waterwise	


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<i>Alcantarea imperialis</i> ‘Purpurea’ - Aipp		
Common name	Giant bromeliad	
Height 1m		
Diameter - 1m		
Main features	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Evergreen• Full sun or deep shade• Eye catching red leaves• Cold tolerant out of direct frost• Waterwise• Available Greenstocks in Brisbane	


Alcantarea imperialis 'Rubra' Alcimp

Common name	Imperial bromeliad	
Height .7m		
Diameter - 1m		
Main features	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Hardy epiphyte for shade or morning sun• Outstanding foliage• Dramatic foliage• Unstoppable• Remove old growth once per year	

Alocasia macrorrhiza - Alomac


Common name	Elephants ears	
Height 1.2m		
Diameter - 1.2m		
Main features	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Evergreen• Large tropical foliage• Deep shade or marginal aquatic plant• Low light or indoor plant• Poisonous• Hardy when established	

<i>Aloe vera</i> - Ave		
Common name	Aloe	
Height .4m		
Diameter - .4m		
Main features	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Evergreen• Fire retardant• Grey green interesting foliage and yellow or orange flowers• Hardy when established• watewise	


<i>Cordyline 'Red Sister' - Corred</i>		
Common name	Red Sister cordyline	
Height 1m		
Diameter - 1m		
Main features	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Full sun or part shade• Naturally bushy but prune to shape• Superb foliage colour• Good indoor plant	

Cordyline 'Cherry Sensation' - Ccse

Common name	Cherry sensation
Height 1m	
Diameter - 1m	
Main features	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Full sun or part shade• Naturally bushy but prune to shape• Superb foliage colour• Prefers dry areas• Ausplant




Cordyline 'Sundance' - Csun

Common name	Sundance	
Height 1m		
Diameter - 1m		
Main features	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Full sun or part shade• Naturally bushy but prune to shape• Superb red and green colour• Prefers dry areas• Ausplant	


***Dianella caerulea* - Diacae**

Common name	Flax lily
Height .6m	
Diameter - .5m	
Main features	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Attractive blue green leaf• Drought hardy• Frost hardy to -3• Prune hard to regenerate• Blue berries and blue flowers




Morrison's Garden Centre

***Dianella tasmanica* 'Variegata' - Dtv**


Common name	Variegated Flax lily	
Height .6m		
Diameter - .5m		
Main features	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Attractive variegated leaf• Drought hardy• Frost hardy to -3• Prune hard to regenerate	

***Dracaena draco* - Dradra**


Common name	Dragon tree
Height up to 5m	
Diameter – 5m (but may be pruned)	
Main features	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Large dominant foliage• Sculptural trunk• Drought hardy• Waterwise• Prune to shape• Low maintenance




***Dichorisandra thyrsifolia* - Dth**

Common name	Blue ginger	
Height 1m		
Diameter - .6m		
Main features	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Tropical appearance• Blue flowers in warmer months• Interesting can like growth• Low maintenance	


Lomandra 'Tanika' - Ltan

Common name	Tanika rush	
Height .7m		
Diameter - .7m		
Main features	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Soft new growth• Yellow flowers• Hardy native when established• Limited maintenance• Fire retardant (used by many councils in difficult areas)	

Lomandra confertifolia - Lco


Common name	Dwarf matt rush	
Height .6m		
Diameter - .6m		
Main features	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Yellow flowers for many months• Evergreen• Fire retardant• Hardy when established	

Lomandra glauca 'Blue Ridge' - Lgbr


Common name	Blue ridge	
Height .6m		
Diameter - .6m		
Main features	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dramatic powder blue foliage toning to green every spring• Prune hard to regenerate annually• Evergreen• Fire retardant• Hardy when established• Ausplant	

Phormium 'Flamin' - Ptf


Common name	Flax
Height .8m	
Diameter - .8m	
Main features	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Low maintenance• 2 tone orange foliage• Can be pruned to shape• Arching foliage but more upright than many flax




Phormium 'Surfer Boy' - Psb

Common name	Flax	
Height .8m		
Diameter - .8m		
Main features	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Low maintenance• 2 tone foliage• Can be pruned to shape• Arching foliage•	


Phormium 'Copper Shot' - Phocop


Common name	Copper Flax	
Height .8m		
Diameter - .8m		
Main features	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Low maintenance• Deep copper foliage• Can be pruned to shape• Arching foliage• Available from Ausplant nursery	


Phormium tenax - Pte


Common name	Green flax	
Height 1m		
Diameter - 1m		
Main features	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Strong green foliage• Upright accent plant• Tough in most conditions• Low maintenance• Fire resistant	

Phormium tenax 'Purpurea' - Ptp

Common name	Purple flax	
Height 1m		
Diameter - 1m		
Main features	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Could sub Maori Maiden', or 'Maori Chieftan'• Strong purple foliage• Upright accent plant• Tough in most conditions• Low maintenance• Fire resistant	

<i>Phormium tenax</i> 'Variegata' - Ptv		
Common name	Variegated flax	
Height 1m		
Diameter - 1m		
Main features	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Strong variegated foliage• Upright accent plant• Tough in most conditions• Low maintenance• Fire resistant	

<i>Strelitzia reginae</i> - Sre		
Common name	Bird of Paradise	
Height 1m		
Diameter - 1m		
Main features	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• spectacular flowers• tough once established• needs full sun to light shade with warm temperatures	

<i>Zoysia tenuifolia</i> - Zte		
Common name	No mow grass	
Height .4m		
Diameter - .4m		
Main features	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Spreading but not invasive• Good accent plants• Hardy in eastern and northern aspects• Useful understorey plant	