in the yard



Melinda Myers, a former horticulture professor based in Milwaukee, has written more than 20 gardening books, including Can't Miss Small Space Gardening.

No matter the season, I always make sure my garden is full of color and texture. In the fall, it's **tall grasses** mixed with **eye-popping perennials** in deep reds, pinks, purples, and golds.



weeder

"The sharp prongs on this Canadian invention really dig deep into soil to grab weeds. It's also great for edging garden beds." Short Dee Weeder, \$20, deeweeder.com



seed source

"I like supporting
Seed Savers Exchange
because they work
with the garden
community to
preserve heirloom
seeds for the future."
Seed Savers
Exchange,
seedsavers.org



work gear

"I'm not a very pretty sight when I garden, but I do appreciate a good hat. This cotton one is lightweight with a nice wide brim." C3 cotton crochet hat, \$30, foxglovesinc.com



easy fall flower

"Cold-hardy pansies like this 'Cool Wave'—a new trailing variety—look so pretty in a fall garden. They'll even survive cold winters in the North to add color in the spring, too."



compost

"While it may not be the biggest surprise, I love food scraps like apple cores in compost. They add nutrients, and using them this way means less trash."



fertilizer

"This organic fertilizer perks up almost any plant. It's especially good for fall lawns, trees, and bulbs." Milorganite,

\$15 for 36 pounds, milorganite.com for stores



favorite herb

"One of my container plant picks, curly parsley has great color and texture, and it draws sullowtail caterpillars, which turn into the most stunning butterflies."



cutting tool

"This 27-inch lopper gives a lot of power with minimal effort—that's key when you have tons of pruning to tackle." PowerGear bypass lopper, \$48, fiskars.com



sturdy container

"Casters make it easy to push this planter around. It also has a built-in water reservoir." Easy Roller 16¾"-high selfwatering pot, \$70, gardeners.com



pest control

"Unlike most repellents, this all-natural one actually smells nice while driving away deer, rabbits, squirrels, and skunks." Animal Stopper granular, \$20, messinawildlife.com