

CLIMBERS

Climbers are the group of plants which have weak stems and ability to climb up the support with the help of modified organs for sun, light and air. Twiners differ from the climbers in the way that they don't possess such modified organs and twine around the support, cover it and reach the top. Such modified organs are:-

1. Tendrils:- *Antigonon leptopus*, *Bignonia gracilis*, *Clematis panniculata* etc.
2. Thorns:- *Bougainvillea sp.*, Climbing roses etc.
3. Roots and rootlets:- *Campsis grandiflora*, *Ficus repens* (also secretes sticky substances from growing points.) etc.

Selection of Climbers

1. **For sunny situation:-** *Pyrostegia venusta*, *Quisqualis indica*, *Antigonon leptopus*, *Campsis grandiflora* etc.
2. **For partial shade:-** *Clerodendron splendens*, *Trachelospermum jasminoides* etc.
3. **Heavy climbers:-** These climbers produce luxuriant vegetative growth and grow very vigorously. They cover large area and suitable for covering bigger area. E.g.-*Antigonon leptopus*, *Beaumontia grandiflora*, *Quisqualis indica* etc.
4. **Light Climbers:-**These climbers make sparse vegetative growth and remain light in spread. These climbers are suitable for limited space. e.g.- *Lonicera japonica*, *Clitoria ternata*, *Trachelospermum jasminodes* etc.
5. **For fragrant flowers:-** *Jamsminum grandiflorum*, *J. officinale*, *Hiptage bengalhensis* etc.
6. **For Pots:-** *Bougainvillea sp.*, *Clitoria ternatea*.
7. **Making hedges:-** *Clerodendron inerme*, *Bougainvillea*.
8. **Indoor decoration:-** Shade loving climbers like *Pathos*, *Monstera deliciosa*, *Philodendron sp.*, *Asparagus sp.*, etc. can be grown in pots and can be grown in indoor also.
9. **For screening:-** *Vernonia elagnaefolia*, *Pyrostegia venusta*.
10. **Annual climbers:-** Sweet Pea, trailing nasturtium. *Ipomea lobata*, *Clitoria ternatea*(Woody climbers).

Planting of Creepers:

These climbers thrive well in any garden soil. The soil should be fertile, deep and good in water holding capacity and water drainage should be proper. For planting the climbers, a pit measure 60cm×60cm×60cm should be dug and refilled with 10-15 kg of FYM manure and 4-5 ml/l of Chlorpyrifos . The main planting season for evergreen climbers is July-September and February-March whereas deciduous climbers are planted in January-February. After planting regular watering should be done. Proper support should be provided at the time of planting. General training in first year is necessary to have desired effect depending upon the kind and shape of support.

Description of important Climbers

Climber (Common name)	Botanical Name	Family	Flower Colour	Flowering time	Propagation
Adenocalymma	Adenocalymma alliacum	Bigoniaceae	Lavender	November	Cutting & Layering
Coralvine (Lover's Chain)	Antigonon leptopus	Polygonaceae	Red	Sep.-Nov.	Seed
Duck flower	Aristolochia grandiflora	Aristolochiaceae	White	September	Seed
Bauhinia	Bauhinia vahlii	Leguminosae	White	April-May	Seed
Nepal trumpet creeper	Beaumontia grandiflora	Apocyanaceae	White	March	Air Layering
Bigonia	Bigonia magnifica	Bigoniaceae	Violet	Oct.-Nov.	Cutting & Layering
	B. gracillia	Bigoniaceae	Yellow	Mar-April	Seed & Layering
Trumpet climber	Campsis grandiflora	Bigoniaceae	Orange	May-Nov.	Cuttings
Virgin flower (Grape flower vine)	Clematis panniculata	Ranunculaceae	White	July-Aug.	Cuttings
Clerodendron	Clerodendron splendens	Verbenaceae	Deep Red	Dec.-March	Hardwood cutting
Butterfly pea creeper	Clitoria ternatea	Leguminosae	Blue		Seed
Indian Ivy	Ficus repens	Moraceae	For Semi shady Situations		
Madhavi lata	Hiptage bengalensis	Malpighiaceae	White	Feb.-March	Seed & Layering
Railway creeper	Ipomea palamata	Convolvulaceae	Purple	Whole Year	
Chameli	Jasminum grandiflorum	Oleaceae	White	June-Nov.	
Japanese honey suckler	Lonicera japonica	Caprifoliaceae	White	May-June	Cuttings & Layering
Watch Flower (Phoolghari)	Passiflora laurifolia	Passifloraceae	Purple		Seed & layering
Golden shower	Pyrostegia venusta	bigoniaceae	Orange	Feb.-March	Ground layering
Bridal bouquet	Porana panniculata	Convolvulaceae			Cuttings
Blue Potato creeper	Solanum seaforthianum	Solanaceae	Purple blue		
Rangoon Creeper (Jhoomka bel)	Quisqualis indica	Combretaceae	Pink-Red	Throughout the Year	Cuttings Root suckers
Sky flower	Thunbergia grandiflora	Acanthaceae	Blue	Feb.-March	Seed, Cutting, Layering
Star jasmine	Trachelospermum jasminoides	Oleaceae	White	May-June	Semi hardwood cutting
Creeping tuberose	Stephanotis floribunda	Asclepidaceae	White	April-Aug.	
Morning glory	Ipomoea learii	Convolvulaceae	Purple-Red	Whole year	
Cypress vine	Ipomoea quamoclit	convolvulaceae	Red	Oct.-March	