






**Full sun: grasses  
for NO DEER areas**

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Plant Name	Height & Spread	Evergreen or Deciduous	Description	Photo
<p><b>Blue Fescue</b> <i>Festuca glauca</i></p> 	<p>6-12 inches tall 6-12 inches wide</p>	<p>Semi-Evergreen  Hardy to 10 degrees</p>	<p>Unique grass with blue blades. Wispy flower spikes are pale yellow to tan.</p>	
<p><b>Velebit Forest Sedge</b> <i>Carex 'Velebit Humilis'</i></p> 	<p>6-12 inches tall 1-2 feet wide</p>	<p>Evergreen  Hardy to minus 15 degrees</p>	<p>Compact, low-growing grass that resembles a mop head of green hair. Handles some foot traffic.</p>	
<p><b>Japanese Blood Grass</b> <i>Imperata cylindrica</i></p> 	<p>1-2 feet tall 12-18 inches wide</p>	<p>Deciduous  Hardy to 0 degrees</p>	<p>Showy grass that has green blades with bright red tips. Excellent as border, in a container, or in mass planting. Can be invasive and spread freely in wet area.</p>	

<p><b>Oriental Fountain Grass</b> <i>Pennisetum orientale</i></p> 	<p>1-2 feet tall 1-2 feet wide</p> <p>*Pennisetum 'Karley Rose' grows slightly larger and has pinkish flower spikes</p>	<p>Deciduous</p> <p>Hardy to minus 5 degrees</p>	<p>Clumping grass with green blades. Showy white flower spikes in summer.</p>	
<p><b>Orange Sedge</b> <i>Carex testacea</i></p> 	<p>1-2 feet tall 1-2 feet wide</p>	<p>Evergreen</p> <p>Hardy to 5 degrees</p>	<p>Forms cascading mound of narrow, arching olive green which turn coppery-brown in summer and have orange tints in winter.</p>	
<p><b>Little Miss Maiden Grass</b> <i>Miscanthus sinensis 'Little Miss'</i></p> 	<p>2-3 feet tall 2-3 feet wide</p>	<p>Deciduous</p> <p>Hardy to 0 degrees</p>	<p>Graceful grass with lush green blades that emerge in spring. Turns brilliant red with purple tones in fall. Showy buff colored seed heads in late summer.</p>	
<p><b>Pink Muhly Grass</b> <i>Muhlenbergia Capillaris</i></p> 	<p>2-3 feet tall 2-3 feet wide</p> <p>*there are varieties of this grass that grow taller or bloom white</p>	<p>Semi-Evergreen</p> <p>Hardy to 0 degrees</p>	<p>Attractive green grass. Clouds of pink flowers in fall resemble cotton candy. Low water needs once established.</p>	

<p><b>Karl Foerster Feather Reed Grass</b> <i>Calamagrostis 'Karl Foerster'</i></p> 	<p>4-5 feet tall 2-3 feet wide</p> <p>*Calamagrostis 'Overdam' has similar look, but slightly smaller and is variegated with green and white striped blades</p>	<p>Deciduous</p> <p>Hardy to minus 10 degrees</p>	<p>Tall growing grass with green, flowing blades. Feathery tan plumes in summer.</p>	
<p><b>Chinese Silver Grass</b> <i>Miscanthus sinensis 'Morning Light'</i></p> 	<p>4-6 feet tall 3-4 feet wide</p>	<p>Deciduous</p> <p>Hardy to 0 degrees</p>	<p>Award-winning grass with vase-like shape and fine-textured foliage that sways gracefully in the breeze. Ivory variegation makes it look silver from a distance. Showy pink-red plumes in late summer.</p>	
<p><b>Zebra Grass</b> <i>Miscanthus sinensis 'Zebrinus'</i></p> 	<p>5-7 feet tall 4-6 feet wide</p> <p>*Miscanthus sinensis 'Little Zebra' has similar look but only grows 3-4 feet tall &amp; wide</p>	<p>Deciduous</p> <p>Hardy to 0 degrees</p>	<p>Distinctive ornamental grass with unusual variegation that resembles zebra stripes! Horizontal, soft yellow rings on arching green blades. Pinkish-copper plumes in late summer.</p>	
<p><b>Pampas Grass</b> <i>Cortaderia selloana</i></p> 	<p>8-10 feet tall 6-8 feet wide</p> <p>*dwarf variety grows to 5-6 feet tall and wide</p>	<p>Evergreen</p> <p>Hardy to 10 degrees</p>	<p>Clumping green grass grows very large. Graceful, fluffy white plumes begin in summer.</p> <p>This grass is very invasive on the CA coast, but not in our colder climate.</p>	









→ this symbol indicates plants that can survive drought once established. It takes 1-2 years of regular watering for a plant to be fully established. In general, plants will look better with regular water, but drought-tolerant plants can survive times when water is not available.

Scroll down for California Native ideas!

## California Native Options ↓

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Plant Name	Height & Spread	Evergreen or Deciduous	Description	Photo
<b>California Meadow Sedge</b> <i>Carex pansa</i> 	6-8 inches tall 2-3 feet wide	Evergreen  Hardy to 10 degrees	Low, spreading grass with wild meadow look. Best look with low water and no mowing. Slender, cream to golden flowers in spring. Drought-tolerant once established.	
<b>Creeping Red Fescue</b> <i>Festuca rubra 'Molate'</i> 	12-18 inches tall 12-18 inches wide	Evergreen  Hardy to 0 degrees or below	Soft, flowing drifts of blue-grey-green foliage. Buff colored flower spikes rise 2-3 feet high in summer. Can be mowed to 2 inches tall.	
<b>Tufted Hair Grass</b> <i>Deschampsia cespitosa</i> 	18-24 inches tall 12-18 inches wide	Semi-evergreen  Hardy to minus 15 degrees	Finely textured, clumping grass. Narrow, dark green blades. Airy, light green florets in summer. Low water needs once established.	

<p><b>Purple Needlegrass</b> <i>Stipa pulchra</i></p> 	<p>1-3 feet tall 1-2 feet wide</p>	<p>Deciduous</p> <p>Hardy to 5 degrees</p>	<p>Bunch grass with blades that are bright green up close, appear grey from a distance. Airy cream flowers with hints of purple in late summer. Drought-tolerant once established.</p>	
<p><b>Deer Grass</b> <i>Muhlenbergia rigens</i></p> 	<p>2-3 feet tall 2-3 feet wide</p>	<p>Semi-evergreen</p> <p>Hardy to 5 degrees</p>	<p>Dense clump of slender arching green blades. Tan flower spikes above foliage in fall. Plumes can reach 5 feet tall. Drought-tolerant once established.</p>	
<p><b>Alkali Sacaton Grass</b> <i>Sporobolus airoides</i></p> 	<p>3-4 feet tall 2-3 feet wide</p>	<p>Deciduous</p> <p>Hardy to 5 degrees</p>	<p>Narrow, fine textured grass with grey-green arching blades. Airy pinkish-white spikelets in late spring mature into small globe-shaped grains which fall to the ground and are loved by birds.</p>	

**California  
Fescue**  
*Festuca  
californica*



3-5 feet  
tall  
2-4 feet  
wide

Evergreen  
**Hardy to 0  
degrees**

Loose clump of blue-  
green or blue-grey  
leaves. Graceful,  
fountain-like habit.  
Drought-tolerant  
once established.

