

# YOUR APRIL GARDEN GUIDE

*2026*

This guide is for anyone who cares about their garden  
but sometimes feels unsure about what to focus on next.



WILD & WOVEN





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# *Welcome* Friends!

I have worked in landscaping and garden maintenance for over twenty years, alongside caring for my own town garden through all its seasons. Over time, I have seen how gardens respond to steady attention, practical decisions, and patience rather than quick fixes.

These guides are shaped by that experience. They reflect how gardens develop month by month, how structure supports planting, and how small, considered steps build confidence over time. My aim is to offer a clear and realistic way of thinking about your space, so you can move forward with greater certainty.

*Louise*  
*Louise Kirby*  
Landscape Gardener



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I wrote this guide for anyone who wants to care for a garden, no matter the size of the space or their level of experience.

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*Chapter 01*

# Who This Guide Is For



I wrote this guide for anyone who wants to care for a garden, no matter the size of the space or their level of experience.





## Who This Guide Is For

You might be completely new to gardening, with a small garden, balcony, or a few pots. You might have a larger garden that feels overwhelming or half-finished. You might be busy, tired, caring for others, managing work, health, or a full household. You might love the idea of gardening but feel unsure where to begin when you look outside.

You do not need specialist knowledge, expensive tools, or a perfect plan. Gardening is not only for people with large country gardens or lots of money. It is for everyone. My own garden is in a town, shaped by real life, changing energy, weather, two dogs, and years of learning by doing.

Gardening does not need to be physically demanding to be meaningful. If your strength, mobility, or energy are limited, even small acts of care still count. Clearing one path, tending a pot, or simply deciding what not to do this month can make a difference over time.

Many people garden with help, from partners, family, friends, neighbours, or a trusted local gardener. That does not make the garden any less yours. It is still shaped by your choices and your care.

This guide is here to help you choose one or two useful things, move forward steadily, and feel supported as you do.



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*Chapter 02*

# What April is Like



April often feels like a continuation, while also marking a clear shift into spring.



- Some work carries over from March

- There is also a sense of new beginning

April often feels like a continuation, while also marking a clear shift into spring.

Growth becomes more noticeable, and the garden begins to feel alive again.

Traditionally, this time of year has long been associated with renewal. With Easter at the beginning of the month this year, and deep roots in seasonal and land-based traditions, April can be seen as a point of new beginnings.



## The Role of April

It is a month for:

- finishing what needs to be in place
- preparing the garden so it is ready to use
- beginning or continuing planting
- reconnecting with the space after winter

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## What April is Like

April can still be mixed. Warm, bright days can quickly turn cooler, and soil temperatures often lag behind the air.

Daylight is increasing quickly. With the clocks having gone forward at the end of March, there is more usable time outside.

Early April offers around 13 hours of daylight, increasing to over 14 hours by the end of the month.

This shift changes how the garden feels. There is more opportunity to step outside, even for short periods.

With Easter Sunday (5th April) and two May bank holidays ahead (4th and 25th), it can be helpful to begin preparing areas you would like to use.

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## A Note on the Moon

- New Moon: 2 April 2026, 3:11am (Libra)
- Full Moon: 17 April 2026, 12:51pm (Aries)

*Some people like to notice the rhythm of the moon alongside the seasons.*

The New Moon is often associated with setting intentions. Libra brings in themes of balance, harmony, and beauty, which can be reflected in how your garden feels and functions.

The Full Moon is more associated with completion and release. Aries carries a sense of action and forward movement, which can support finishing something that has been ongoing or taking the next step.

This is simply another way of noticing the rhythm of the month, rather than something you need to follow.

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*Chapter 03*

# Looking at Your Space



This month, it can help to look at your garden as somewhere you will begin to spend time again.





## *Looking at Your Space*

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You might consider:

- where you would like to sit
- how the space feels to walk through
- what feels welcoming, and what does not
- what needs to be in place before you can relax and enjoy it

”

“The garden suggests there might be a place where we can meet nature halfway.”

— Michael Pollan

A garden does not need to be perfect, but when it is cared for, it often feels more inviting.

It becomes an extension of the home, somewhere you can settle into more easily.

Even a small amount of care can change how a space feels.

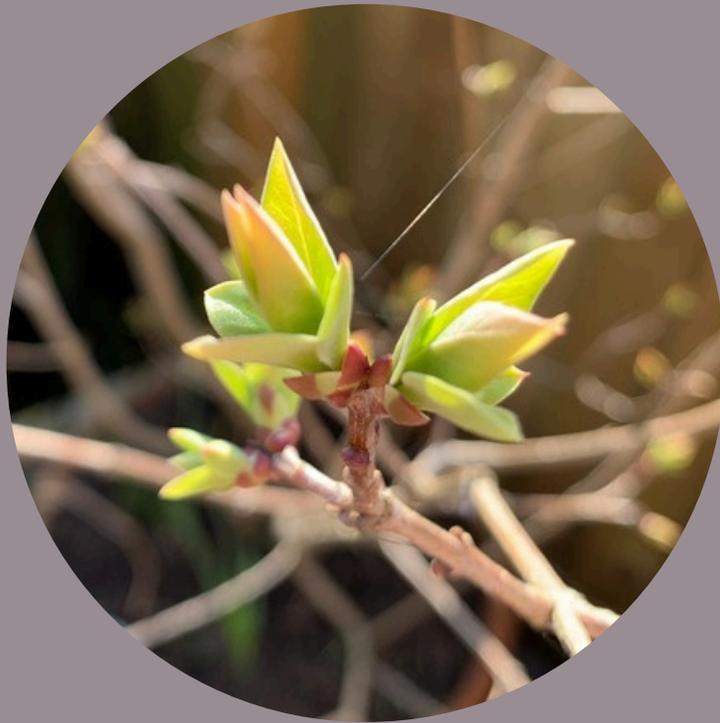
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*Chapter 04*

# In My Own Garden



April, for me, is a continuation of March, with a growing sense that things need to come together.



## Over recent weeks I have:

- jet washed paths and cleared built-up debris
- cleaned and treated the back decking
- aerated the lawn and carried out the first cuts
- weeded and begun adjusting borders
- dismantled older planters that were no longer working
- cleared areas of rough growth
- dealt with pests in my strawberry plants, removing affected soil and preparing to replant them
- Some of this was planned, and some came up along the way.



There are still important jobs to complete:

- finishing the fence and retaining wall so planting can begin
- preparing and planting the front border, including a new tree
- topping up borders with bark
- relaying path slabs
- cleaning, sanding, and oiling a second decking area
- treating benches and remaining timber

Alongside this, Richard and I are working in other people's gardens. Balancing this with our own space can feel a lot at times, but I do enjoy the process of caring for my garden.

This month, my focus is on completing the work that allows the garden to be used and enjoyed as we move towards May.

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## *Chapter 05*

# Timber, Surfaces, and Access



If you have decking, fencing, or timber features, April is often a good time to complete treatment before growth increases and access becomes more difficult.





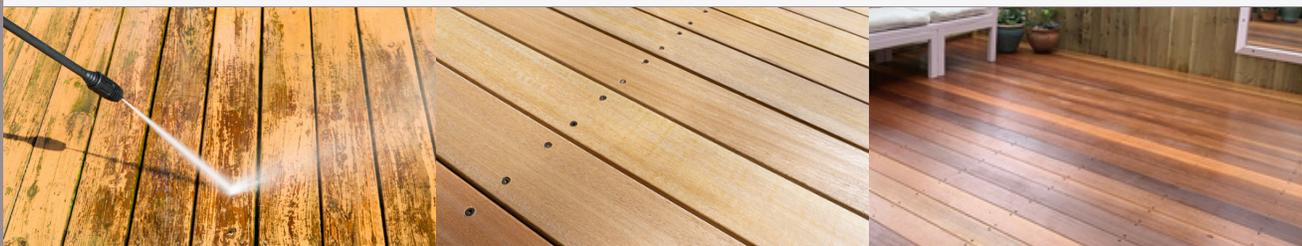
## Work might include:

jet washing remaining areas  
sanding where appropriate  
oiling or treating decking and seating  
treating fences while they are still accessible  
repainting gates or timber features

Sanding is not always essential, but can improve the finish on certain timbers. Hardwood decking, for example, may benefit from a finer finish before oiling. It helps to work with the weather, allowing surfaces to dry properly between stages.

## A Simple How To: Cleaning and Treating Decking

- If you are preparing decking for use, it helps to work in stages.
- Start by clearing and sweeping away loose debris.
- Jet wash carefully, working along the boards.
- Allow the surface to dry fully.
- If needed, sanding can improve the finish, particularly on hardwood.
- Before applying treatment, give the decking a final brush to remove dust.
- Apply oil or treatment in suitable conditions, allowing time between coats.
- Working steadily through these steps tends to give a more even and lasting result.



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*Chapter 06*

# Planting in April



Planting becomes more active this month, as conditions improve.





## Planting in April

You might consider:

- planting shrubs and perennials
- filling gaps in borders noticed from last year
- refreshing containers
- sowing hardy vegetables outdoors
- continuing sowing under cover for tender crops

Some reliable plants for April interest and early support for pollinators include:

primroses  
pulmonaria  
aubrieta  
forget-me-nots  
wallflowers  
chives

It can help to let structure guide planting, rather than rushing to fill every space. Small, considered additions often settle better over time.



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## *Chapter 07*

# Supporting Wildlife



Wildlife activity increases noticeably in April. Bumblebees are often already active, and in some areas there has been a loss of honey bee colonies over winter.





## *Supporting Wildlife*

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There are simple ways to help:

- provide shallow water with somewhere safe to land
- allow early flowers to bloom
- include nectar-rich plants such as primroses, pulmonaria, aubrieta, and forget-me-nots
- avoid disturbing nesting areas
- check carefully before cutting hedges

Each garden, however small, can offer something back to the wider environment over time.

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*Keep bird feeders topped up.*



“  
Even small  
gardens  
contribute to the  
wider landscape.  
Thoughtful care  
has more impact  
than it  
sometimes  
appears.”

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*Chapter 08*

# Possible April Jobs



Choose one or two that feel most useful for your garden.



- Possible April Jobs

- Choose one or two that feel most useful for your garden.

## Beginner

- light weeding
- refresh pots and containers
- sow easy crops
- clean seating areas
- keep paths clear



## Intermediate

- prepare beds for planting
- plant shrubs or perennials
- treat decking or timber
- install plant supports
- improve a seating area



## Advanced

- complete decking restoration
- finish fencing or boundary work
- relay slabs
- build or reshape planting areas
- address drainage or ground issues

These are options, not expectations and will change depending on your space and your goals.

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## *Chapter 09*

# A Simple April Rhythm



It can help to return to unfinished work focusing on one area at a time and complete what will make the garden usable. Notice what is changing week by week. A little time each week can make a noticeable difference.





# April Garden Journal

This month, you might record:

- the area you chose to focus on
- why you chose it
- what carried over from March
- what you completed
- what surprised you
- what needed adjusting
- what you planted and where
- weather conditions during key tasks
- what you would like ready for May

Keeping notes over time builds familiarity with your own garden. Patterns become clearer, and decisions grow easier. Gardens develop over years. A written record helps you see that development taking shape.

You can download my free guide on how to keep a garden journal here:

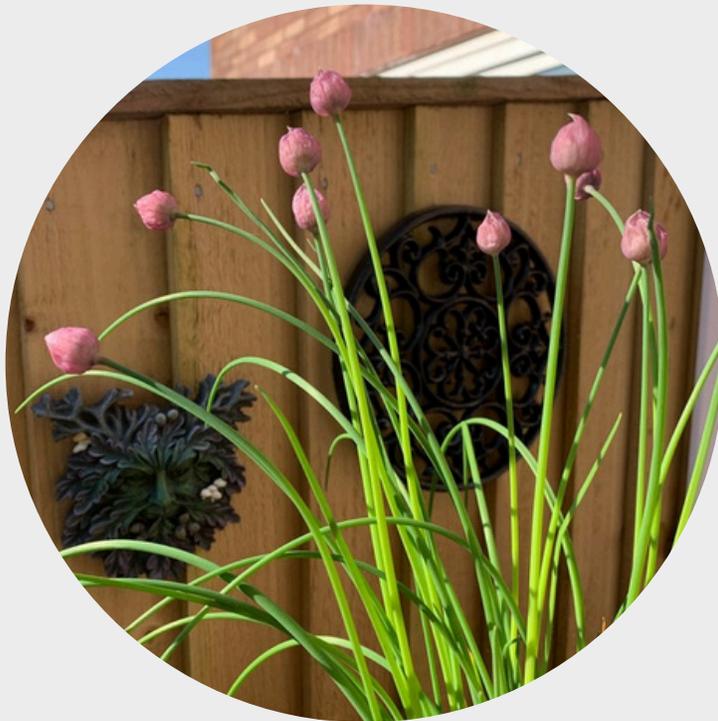
[arkgardenservices.co.uk/#how-to-keep-a-garden-journal-free-guide](https://arkgardenservices.co.uk/#how-to-keep-a-garden-journal-free-guide)



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## *Chapter 10*

# Looking Ahead to May



May often brings stronger growth and more consistent use of the garden. With bank holidays on the 4th and 25th, you may find yourself wanting a space ready to sit, gather, or spend time with others. Even one area prepared now can change how the garden is used.



# Closing

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A garden does not need to be finished to be enjoyed. With steady care and attention, it can become a place that feels welcoming and settled over time.

Looking after a garden is also a way of caring for the land, however small the space may be. When many people do this, it contributes to something wider.

If you would like to connect with others doing the same, there is a small Wild & Woven WhatsApp group where people share what they are working on and support each other along the way. You are very welcome to join. You can contact me, Louise on WhatsApp +447890 047684 I will pop in, as will Richard to answer your landscaping and gardening questions!



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[@WildandWov3n](#)

# THANK YOU

*for using this guide.*

Gardens change slowly, and so does confidence. If these pages have helped you look at your space with a little more clarity, that is enough.

## About Us

Wild & Woven is created by me, Louise. I have worked alongside my husband Richard in landscaping and garden maintenance for over twenty years through our business, **Ark Fencing & Garden Services** in Cwmbran, South Wales. Our work takes place in real, lived-in gardens. We value structure, durability, and spaces that feel welcoming and cared for.

## What is Wild & Woven

Wild & Woven grew from a desire to share the thinking behind our practical work. Many people want a garden that feels settled and well cared for, but are unsure where to begin. These guides offer a calm, realistic way to plan and tend your space over time.

We believe that small, steady care for the land matters. When more people look after their patch thoughtfully, it strengthens the wider landscape too.

## Find Out More About Ark!

If you would like to find out more about our landscaping business you can visit our website [arkgardenservices.co.uk](http://arkgardenservices.co.uk) or find us on all the socials!

