



WILD & WOVEN

Your February Garden Guide

2026

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February Garden Guide

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.

My own experience comes from over 20 years working as a landscape gardener, alongside caring for my own town garden through all its seasons. Everything here is offered as guidance, not instruction.

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 stuck 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 crazy dogs and years of learning by doing.

Gardening doesn't need to be physically demanding to be meaningful. If your strength, mobility, energy, or health 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 real difference over time.

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

This guide is here to help you slow down, choose one small, useful thing, and feel supported while you do it.



The Role Of February

February can feel like a quiet, exposed month in the garden, especially after the movement and colour of the year before. Things are stripped back, the ground is often wet or heavy, and it can be easier to see what feels unfinished or unsettled.

February's role is to help you care for the foundations of your garden and home. It is about restoring order after winter, tending to what has shifted or worn down, and making thoughtful decisions that quietly support the months ahead.

There is no rush for beauty or abundance yet. Those arrive in their own time, built on what you choose to look after now.

What February Often Feels Like

February supports the whole garden year by helping you:

- finish messy or disruptive jobs properly
- deal with things that have shifted, broken, or worn out
- restore clear routes, edges, and boundaries
- make calm decisions about long-term elements

This is less about how much you do, and more about what you choose to do. Small, well-judged actions now save a great deal of effort later.



In the UK, February begins with around 9 hours of daylight and ends closer to 10.5 hours. The days are lengthening, even if growth still feels slow.



Look at Your Space First

Before thinking about the whole garden, start with how it meets you.

Stand at your front door, back door, or gate and take a proper look.

Ask:

- What immediately catches my eye?
- What looks messy, broken, or neglected?
- What makes the space feel uncared for, even if the planting is sound?

Often it's not plants that cause a space to feel wrong, but clutter, unstable edges, stored materials, or disrupted paths.



Small improvements to arrival points, clearing, repairing, tidying, have a big effect. They tell you, and visitors, that the garden is being looked after, even in winter.



Choose What Matters This Month

1. Do the Structural Jobs First

If winter has revealed problems, damaged borders, unstable edges, broken paths, exposed boundaries, deal with these before anything else.

Examples include:

- rebuilding or reinforcing retaining edges
- relaying lifted or uneven paving
- repairing steps, thresholds, or entrances
- planning or installing fences and screens

These jobs are rarely visible once planting fills out, but they prevent years of ongoing mess and frustration.

2. Clear and Reuse Materials

February is a good month for clearing debris, rubble, stones, and old materials, especially if they can be reused elsewhere in the garden.

Aim for fewer piles, clear ground surfaces, and neatly stacked materials.

A garden that is bare but settled, with things made safe, clear, and intentional, usually feels far better than one that is busy but unresolved.

3. Restore Routes and Edges

Clear paths, entrances, and thresholds completely.

This might mean moving stored materials out of the way, sweeping hard surfaces, or tidying bed edges so spaces read clearly.

Straightforward routes are one of the strongest signals of a well-maintained garden, even in winter.

4. Decide the Big Anchors

February is the right time to decide on long-term elements such as trees, major shrubs, and boundary features.



Make the decisions now, but don't rush planting or building if conditions are not right. One well-chosen anchor can carry the feeling of a whole space.



Possible February Jobs

February does not need a long task list. Many people are busy, tired, or simply want a clear place to start.

You may find it helpful to choose one or two small jobs from the lists below. Even half an hour a week, done with intention, can slowly change how a garden feels and how confident you feel caring for it.

Beginner

- tidy borders by removing winter debris that smothers new shoots
- scrub algae or moss from steps, patios, and paths
- clean and organise tools, sharpen secateurs
- start chitting early potatoes
- begin easy indoor sowing such as herbs or salad leaves

Intermediate

- finish dormant pruning, especially apples and pears
- cut back ornamental grasses before new growth appears
- divide and replant snowdrops in the green
- start under-cover sowing such as tomatoes, peppers, and chillies
- prepare vegetable beds when soil is workable, weed, rake, and add compost on top
- check lawn edges and lightly rake debris in mild spells

Advanced

- repair or replace fence panels or rails
- lift and re-bed rocking slabs or uneven steps
- deep clean decking and fix loose boards
- install or repair cold frames, mini tunnels, or raised beds
- service mowers and powered equipment before the spring rush



These lists are options, not expectations. Choose what fits your space and your energy.



Planting, Growing, and Natural Cycles

If you grow vegetables, even on a small scale, February can include gentle preparation.

Seeds that can be started now, usually indoors or under cover, include herbs and salad leaves, tomatoes, peppers, chillies, and in milder areas early peas or broad beans.

Some spring-flowering bulbs can still be planted if the ground is workable.

February is also a suitable time to plant bare-root shrubs and hedging. Container-grown shrubs can be planted if the soil is not frozen or waterlogged. Early planting allows roots to settle before spring growth begins.

Some gardeners like to pay attention to the moon as part of working in rhythm with natural cycles. This is not a set of rules, but a way of pausing, noticing, and reflecting as the month unfolds.

For February 2026:

- **Full Moon:** 1 February, in Leo. Often experienced as a point of visibility and fullness, a good moment to notice what is already working or asking for attention in the garden.
- **New Moon:** 17 February, in Aquarius. A quieter point in the month, often associated with reflection, intention, and deciding what to begin gently next.



A February Example: My Own Garden

I have worked in landscaping and gardening for over 20 years, and this guide reflects how I plan and tend real gardens, including my own.

This February, my priority area is the approach to the house and front door. Winter revealed a failed retaining wall, lifted path slabs, stored materials cluttering the entrance, and the need for a new boundary fence.

My focus this month is restoring order and completing structural work properly. I am rebuilding a new oak retaining timber wall, reusing materials where possible, relaying the path slabs, building the new fence, clearing the entrance, and only then planting a new ornamental tree.

By the end of February, the space will still be simple and quiet, but it will be stable, clear, and ready for spring.

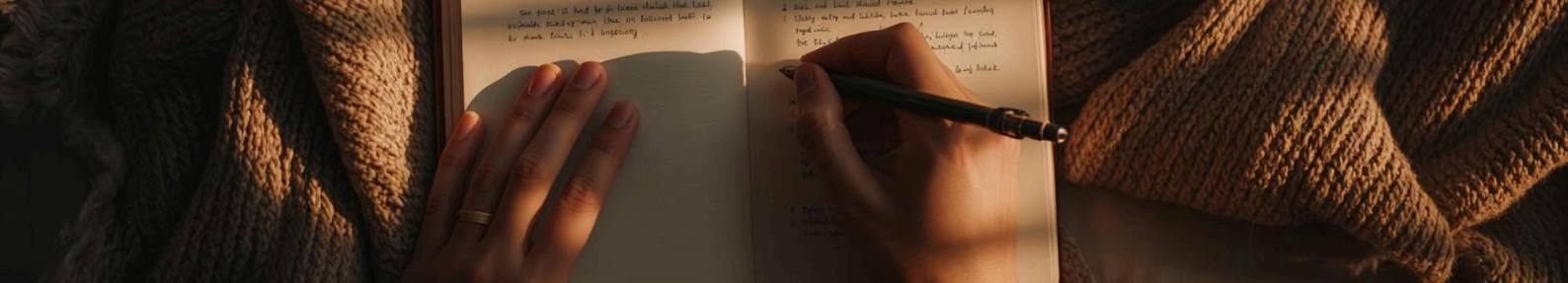
A Simple February Structure

If it helps, you might like to hold February with a gentle rhythm:

- notice your garden from the door or gate
- choose one small, useful task
- do it with care
- pause and reflect
- let that be enough for now



Small steps, taken regularly, build confidence, familiarity, and connection over time.



A February Garden Journal Page

Keeping a simple garden journal can quietly transform how you relate to your garden.

You might like to note:

- the date
- one small job you chose
- what you planted, if anything, and where
- how it felt to do
- what you noticed
- what you might do differently next year

Over time, this turns experience into understanding and helps you trust your own judgement.

Caring For Wildlife

Gardens are shared spaces. In the UK, they form an important network of shelter, food, and water for birds, insects, and small animals.

Even gentle actions help, such as keeping fresh water available, leaving seed heads or leaf litter until spring, and checking hedges before cutting.



Need a Hand?

If you are based in South Wales, particularly around Cwmbran, you are welcome to get in touch with our landscaping business, Ark Fencing & Garden Services. My husband and I began back in 2007. We design and build high-quality decking, fencing and garden structures, tailored to different styles, and needs as well as carrying out work maintaining gardens! You can find us on most of the socials or visit www.arkgardenservices.co.uk

If you are further afield, I also offer paid garden consultations focused on calm planning, sequencing work sensibly, and avoiding unnecessary effort or expense.

Looking Ahead



Spring will bring its own momentum. For now, care for what is in front of you, and let that be enough.

Feedback

This guide is intended to support your own thinking rather than tell you what to do. Take from it what feels useful, adapt it to suit your garden and circumstances, and leave the rest.

A guide for next month will be shared in time. If questions come up, or you notice areas where a bit more clarity would help, feedback is always welcome.

If you'd like to garden alongside others, there is also a small WhatsApp group - where people quietly share what they're working on and support one another. If you'd like to join, you can contact me, Louise on WhatsApp +44 7890 047684



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