

October Gardening Jobs

October is a key transition month in the garden - wrapping up the growing season while setting things up for winter and next spring. Here's a practical, well-rounded checklist you can work through.

 General Garden Maintenance		Completed
• Rake fallen leaves (keep some for leaf mould or mulch)		☐
• Clear dead and diseased plant material		☐
• Weed beds before winter sets in		☐
• Turn and tidy the compost heap		☐
• Mulch borders to protect soil and roots		☐
 Planting & Bulbs		
• Plant spring bulbs (tulips, daffodils, crocus)		☐
• Plant garlic and overwintering onions		☐
• Plant bare-root trees, shrubs, and roses		☐
• Divide and replant overcrowded perennials		☐
 Lawn Care		
• Rake leaves off the lawn regularly		☐
• Aerate compacted soil (fork or aerator)		☐
• Scarify to remove moss/thatch if needed		☐
• Apply autumn lawn feed		☐
• Overseed thin or patchy areas		☐
 Fruit & Veg Tasks		
• Harvest apples, pears, pumpkins, and squash		☐
• Clear spent crops and add to compost (if disease-free)		☐
• Plant winter crops (broad beans, garlic, hardy greens)		☐
 Pruning & Cutting Back		
• Cut back faded perennials (leave some for wildlife if you like)		☐
• Prune climbing roses and rambling plants lightly		☐
• Trim hedges (before frost hits)		☐
• Deadhead remaining flowering plants		☐
 Greenhouse & Indoor Prep		
• Clean greenhouse glass and surfaces		☐
• Move tender plants indoors or into greenhouse		☐
• Check pots and drainage to prevent waterlogging		☐
 Wildlife & Winter Prep		
• Put out bird feeders and fresh water		☐
• Create habitats (log piles, bug hotels)		☐
• Clear and net ponds from falling leaves		☐
• Leave some areas a bit wild for insects and hedgehogs		☐
 Tools & Structures		
• Clean and sharpen tools		☐
• Drain and store hoses/irrigation systems		☐
• Repair fences, sheds, and structures		☐
• Treat wooden furniture before winter weather		☐