

The Language of Herbs

Herb	Botanical Name	Meaning
Silver King Artemisia	<i>Artemisia 'Silver King'</i>	Power, dignity
Basil	<i>Ocimum basilicum</i>	Hatred
Bay leaf	<i>Laurus Nobilis</i>	"I change but in death"
Borage	<i>Borago officinalis</i>	Abruptness, bluntness, directness
Catnip, Catmint	<i>Nepeta cataria</i>	Provokes fearlessness
Chamomile	<i>Chamaemelum nobile; syn. Anthemis nobilis</i>	Patience in adversity
Chives	<i>Allium schoenoprasum</i>	Courage, strength, protection
Comfrey	<i>Symphytum officinale</i>	Home sweet home
Coneflower	<i>Echinacea purpurea</i>	Strength and health
Dill	<i>Anethum graveolens</i>	Irresistible, soothing
Fennel	<i>Foeniculum vulgare</i>	Strength, worthy of praise
Foxglove	<i>Digitalis purpurea</i>	Insincerity
Johnny-jump-up	<i>Viola tricolor</i>	Happy thoughts
Lavender	<i>Lavandula angustifolia</i>	Mistrust; devotion, luck, soothes trembling and passions of the heart
Lemon Balm	<i>Melissa officinalis</i>	Healing, love, fun, relief
Lemon Verbena	<i>Aloysia triphylla</i>	Responsibility, attraction to the opposite sex
Lovage	<i>Lesvisticum officinale</i>	Strength
Nasturtium	<i>Tropaeolum majus</i>	patriotism
Oregano	<i>Origanum vulgare</i>	Happiness, joy
Parsley	<i>Petroselinum crispum</i>	A call for festivity
Peppermint	<i>Mentha x piperita</i>	Warmth of feeling
Pot Marigold	<i>Calendula officinalis</i>	Health, joy, constancy, grief, jealousy
Rose	<i>Rosa spp.</i>	Orange - fascination; peach -modesty; pink -grace; red - love; yellow - infidelity
Rosemary	<i>Rosmarinus officinalis</i>	Remembrance, devotion
Sage	<i>Salvia officinalis</i>	Good health; long life; wisdom
Sage, pineapple	<i>Salvia elegans</i>	Hospitality, esteem, virtue
Sage, purple	<i>Salvia officinalis 'Purpurascens'</i>	Gratitude
Scented Geranium	<i>Pelargonium ssp.</i>	Gentility, preference, comfort
Sweet Cicely	<i>Myrrhis odorata</i>	Gladness, sincerity, rejoices and comforts the heart
Thyme	<i>Thymus</i>	<i>A call to action; courage</i>
Vervain	<i>Verbena officinalis</i>	Enchantment; wishes granted
Yarrow	<i>Achillea millefolium</i>	Cure for heart ache; war

Compiled by Rie Sluder.

References: Kirby, Mandy. *A Victorian Flower Dictionary*. Ballanetne Books: New York, 2011.

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