



Container Gardening

Carol Brouwer, Ph.D.
flourishandbits.com

CONTAINER GARDENING
by Carol Brouwer



Containers

- Buckets
- Trash cans
- Shoes
- Bathroom fixtures
- Ceramic pots
- Window boxes
- Drums
- Barrels
- Gutters
- Hanging baskets
- Baskets with plastic linings



Green Walls



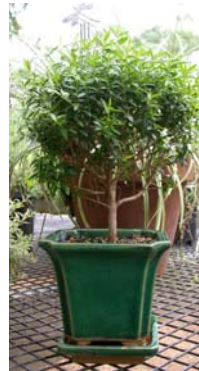
Veggies in Containers

- 8 hours of sunlight
- Good drainage
- Near water
- Visible



Indoor Plants

- Always use soilless potting mix
- Provide as much light as possible
- Choose the right plant
- Don't over water
- Fertilize



Container Tips

- Choose containers with good drainage.
- Use large pots for mixing plants



Container Tips

- Right plant right place
 - Sun versus shade
 - Size
- Match light and moisture requirements
- Choose plants that grow well in containers



Soil and Amendments

- 'Soilless Mix'
 - Peat Moss, Perlite, Vermiculite
 - Light weight
 - Well-drained
- Potting Mix with Fertilizer
- Orchid bark mix, as is or combine with soilless mix



Soil and Amendments

- Perlite for drainage (floats)
- Vermiculite for water retention
- Calcined clay for pH buffering
- Water absorbing gel
- Slow release fertilizer with a 3-1-2



Thrillers, Fillers and Spillers

- Use taller plant in the center as a focal point
- Accent with trailing plants and low growing color around.
- Determine from what directions it will be viewed.



Thrillers

- plants with height that add drama and a vertical element to the combination
- flowering, foliage plants or ornamental grasses
- center or back of container



Fillers

- rounded or mounded plants and make the container look full
- front of, or around the Thriller



Spillers

- trailing plants that hang over the edge of the planter
- placed close to the edge of the container
- all sides or at front depending on view





Fall Container

- Diascia (Twinspur)
- Osteospermum
- Carex (Toffee Twist Sedge)
- Salvia (Purple Sage)
- Ajuga (Bugleweed)



- Sweet potato vine
- Carex
- Begonia
- Pennisetum



- Calibrachoa
- Euphorbia
'Diamond Frost'
- Dianthus
- Pennisetum



- Calibrachoa
- Sweet potato vine
- Juncus
- Pineapple sage



- Angelonia
- Carex
- Duranta
- Scaevola
- Torenia



Resources

- Proven Winners
 - <http://www.provenwinners.com/Container-Design>

