

CONTAINER GARDENING

The containerized garden is often the most rewarding type that a gardener can do. There are a few basic principles to container gardening that are best followed for success every time. The artistic side will be up to you. Once you have your artistic muse whether that is the pot, plant, or a style itself you are ready to gather your materials.

Weight Reduction or Wind Complications and finding the best drainage:

Some large containers are so heavy that it makes them impractical to move around the yard or home. To help reduce the weight use Styrofoam peanuts as drainage or as the bulk of the planting medium in the bottom of the large pot. Research has shown that pot shards actually slow the drainage rather than improve it. So do our environment one more favor and utilize this super-light solution for drainage and ease. Alternatively, you may have a very light or very top heavy planted pot. If planting new stabilize by using a brick or large rocks in the bottom. Be sure to not block drainage holes in this process. It is still a good idea to add a small layer of foam peanuts if possible on top.

Planting your Container:

1. Fill your container half-full with potting mix. We recommend you use Berger Potting Soil. Berger is a lightweight mix that is mostly peat moss and perlite for easy root growth and optimal moisture retention.
2. Add the recommended amount of Soil Moist. Soil Moist is a moisture-retaining polymer that holds 100 times its weight in water and releases it on demand to the surrounding root system.
3. Add the recommend amount of Osmocote Slow Release Fertilizer.
4. Add your plants or raise the soil level a little more to accommodate smaller plants. The rule is to not plant the plant deeper than it already is when you pull it out of its pot. So be sure to keep the soil at that level. Also be sure to allow a 1-2" reservoir below the lip of the container to allow the water to be absorbed properly and not splash out.
5. Back fill your container with more soil until all of the major holes have been filled.
6. Water well, add more soil if needed.
7. Water well with fertilome Root Stimultor or liquefied seaweed and allow to drain.
8. Place your newly planted pots out of the wind and in the shade if possible until the initial transplant shock has passed.
9. Enjoy your glorious planting and remember to apply root stimulator again in a couple of weeks and that containerized planting require more fertilizer than ground planting so fertilize me regularly with Miracle Gro or another high phosphorous fertilizer.



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