



Container Gardening

Gardening in containers is a great way to add color and natural beauty to your environment. Accentuate a deck or patio with colorful pots of annuals. Fill window boxes with trailing blooms so you can enjoy the view from inside and out. Take advantage of the flexibility of container gardens to decorate an area for a party and then move them back after the festivities are over. Use containers on steps, balconies, fences; and around trees, mailboxes and flagpoles.

1. Select a container that has a bottom hole for drainage.
2. Use a well-draining potting mix such as **ferti•lome Ultimate Potting Mix**.
3. Add a slow-release fertilizer like **ferti•lome Start-N-Grow** and a moisture-absorbing polymer crystal (**Soil Moist**), or use a potting mix which already has these ingredients. The fertilizer in these mixes is very minimal so remember to fertilize during the season with **Daniels Plant Food** (10-4-3) or **ferti•lome Blooming & Rooting** (9-59-8) soluble plant food.
4. Choose your plants according to the sun exposure they will receive—full sun, afternoon shade or shade. (See other side for plant suggestions.)
5. Place plants closer together than you would if planting in the ground, but allow a little space for growth.

Check moisture daily. To determine if your plants need water, stick your finger into the soil. If the soil feels dry give it water until it's running out of the drainage hole.

Design Tips

1. Use a variety of plants for color and texture.
2. Plant taller varieties toward the center or back of the container, depending on whether it will be viewed from one side or all around.
3. Surround the center plant with low to medium growing plants.
4. Finish with trailing plants around the edge.

JOHNSON'S • GARDEN • CENTERS

Annuals for Full Sun

(need 1/2 day sun)

Angelonia
Blue Daze (Evolvulus)
Cosmos
Dahlberg Daisy
Diamond Frost Euphorbia
Ganzia
Gomphrena
Hibiscus
Lantana
Marigold
Melopodium
Mexican Heather
Pentas
Purslane
Rose Moss
Salvia (Blue)
Scavolea
Sunflower
Vinca
Wave Petunia
Zinnia

Annuals for Shade

Begonia
Caladium
Coleus
Impatiens
Lobelia
Mimulus
Torenia

Annuals for Afternoon Shade

Ageratum
Alyssum
Begonia (bronze leaf)
Celosia
Dahlia
Dianthus
Diascia
Geranium
Heliotrope
Margarita Daisy
Nemesia
Petunia
Salvia
Snapdragon
Straw Flower
Sun Coleus
Verbena

Accent Plants

(most work in afternoon shade to shade)

Asparagus Fern
Dracaena Spike
Dusty Miller
Fiber Optic Grass
Ivy
Licorice Plant
Sweet Potato Vine
Swedish Ivy
Wandering Jew
Vinca Vine