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# Container Planting

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- Create Your Own Living Floral Arrangements
- LeeAnn Martin,  
Utah Master Gardener
- [laf.everlasting20@gmail.com](mailto:laf.everlasting20@gmail.com)



## Using Container Planters in your Landscape

- Color Spots: Flower containers can be placed in front of hedges, under trees, or in rock beds around the outdoor living space.







Evergreen with  
Geraniums,  
Petunias

Evergreen,  
Pansies  
and Ivy





Soften edges of the patio

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Hydrangeas  
Roses  
Shaped Boxwoods in  
baskets used to direct  
traffic or create  
outside rooms or add  
seasonal color to  
patio area.

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Brighten up stairs or pathways



Soften up Entry way and what a great place to put some more beauty!

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# Choosing a Container

- Wooden Pots



- Terra Cotta or Clay Pots





Plastic  
Pots

Glazed or  
Clay pots



Unique One-of-A-Kind Pots

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# Soil



There are many good Potting Mixes at the garden centers.

**Add a handful of PERLITE or VERMICULITE** to help the potting mixes stay loose and allow water and oxygen to get down to the roots.

# Fertilizer

- Slow release fertilizer such as Osmocote:  
14-14-14
- Water Soluble: 8-16-8
- Fertilizer with a higher middle number will help produce more flowers.

# What do the Numbers Mean?

14

Nitrogen

**N**

14

Phosphorous

**P**

14

Potassium

**K**

- **Nitrogen** pumps up the green and promotes vegetation
- **Phosphorous** promotes roots, flower and fruit production
- **Potassium** is for the overall health of the plants

# Plant Selection

What to look for in choosing  
healthy plants:

Healthy Roots

No sign of pests

Foliage health

# Healthy Roots

**Root Bound**



**Root Bound**



# Over watered, Root Rot

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# Healthy Roots



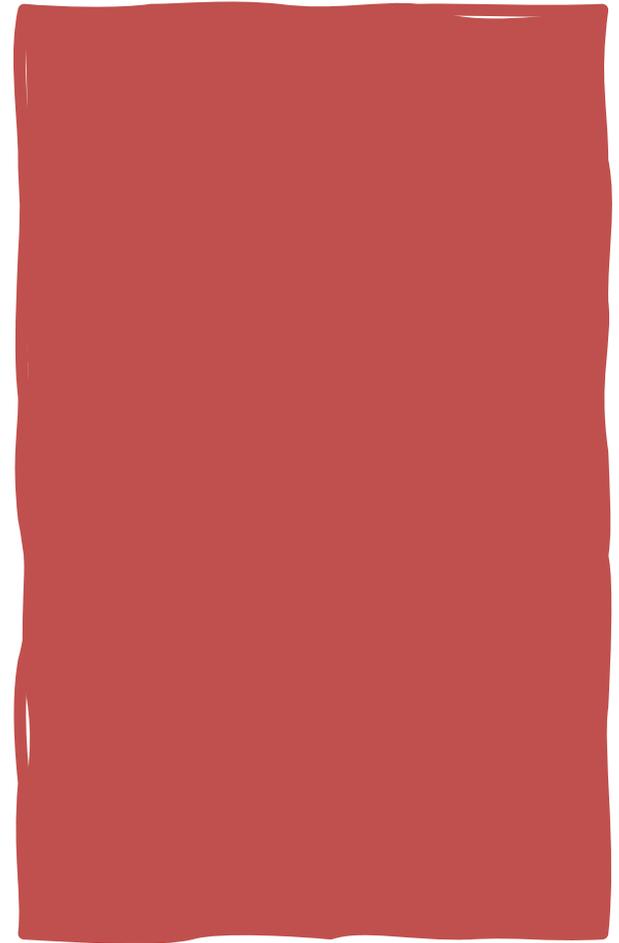
# Over Watered vs Too Dry



- Yellow leaves are a sign of overwatering.
- Dull leaves instead of shiny can be a sign of lack of water.

As we go through these next several container photos, notice the difference in textures shapes and colors that add excitement to the arrangement.

Choose plants with similar needs for water, soil and sun.





# Plant Tags

# Thriller

## Tall Centerpiece

**Sanseveria (Snake Plant)**



**Dracaena**



## Grasses



## Flowers



## Evergreens



## Shrubs or Trees



# Fillers

## Mid Size Plants

### Geraniums



### Lantana



**Zinnias**



**Dusty Miller**



# Spillers

**Ivy**



**Petunias and Calibrachoa**



# More Ideas!

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**Plant list 5:** Mexican Feather grass, Orange Gazania, Dichondra repens, Dichondra 'Silver Falls' ( Source: [Park Seed](#) )



Pros and Cons Idea

# Window Boxes



# Edible Container

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# Rosemary and Verbena

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# Choosing and Arranging the Plants



- Let's go to the nursery and do some plant arranging!

# Prepping the Container

1

Containers can get heavy to move once filled with soil.

2

Containers can use more soil than is necessary for the season's use.

3

Fill the pot with some lightweight material to keep the weight down or fill space.

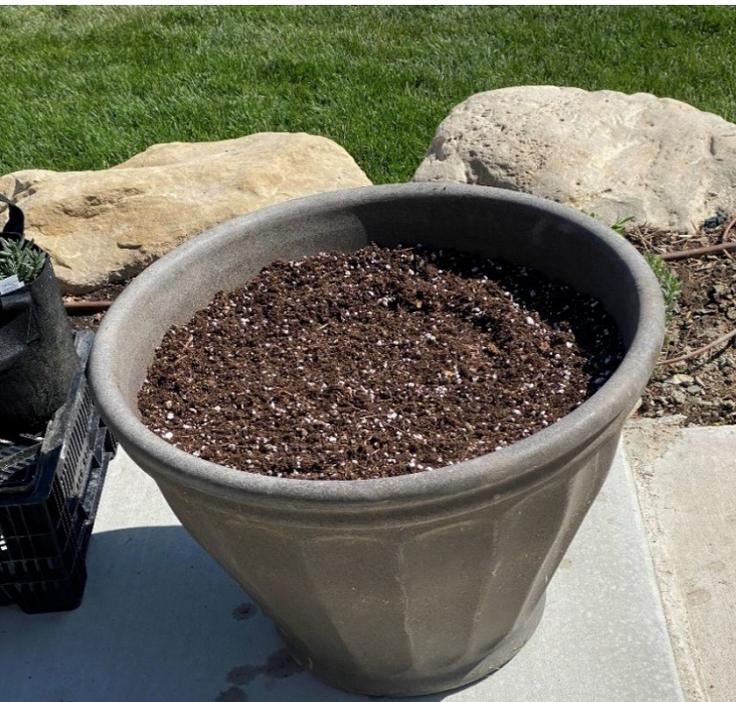
Fill container no more than  $\frac{1}{2}$  full of peanuts or place empty plastic pots upside down in the bottom to take up space and still allow water drainage.





Fill the Container  
with soil, mixing in a  
handful of slow-  
release type  
fertilizer

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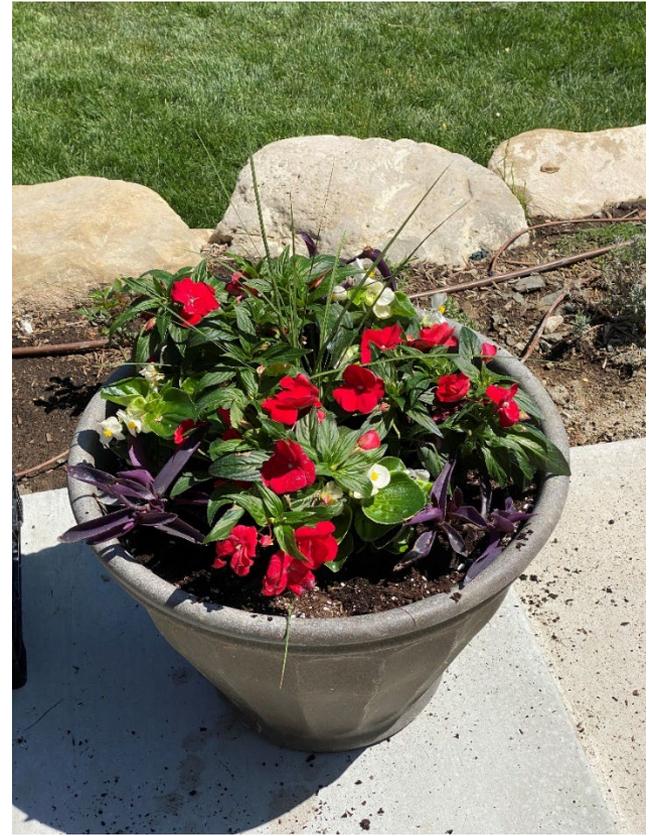
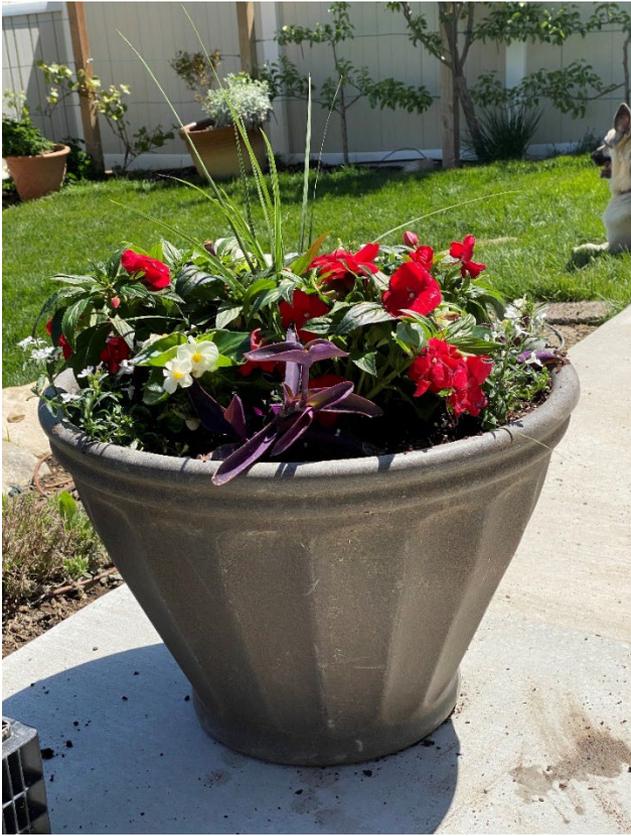
# Thriller - Dracaena

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Fillers –  
New Guinea Impatiens and Wax Begonias



Spillers  
Purple Heart Wandering Jew and white Trailing Lobelia

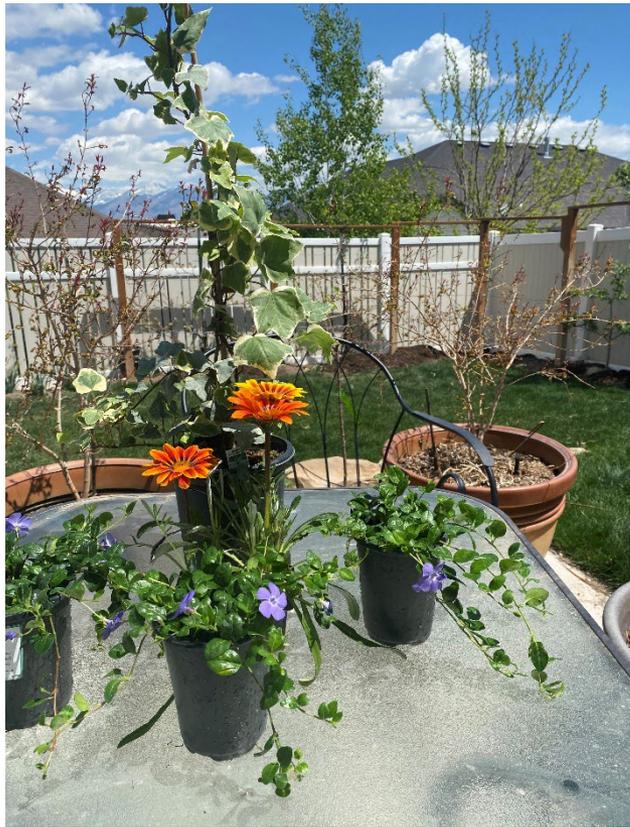
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# Sun Loving Arrangement

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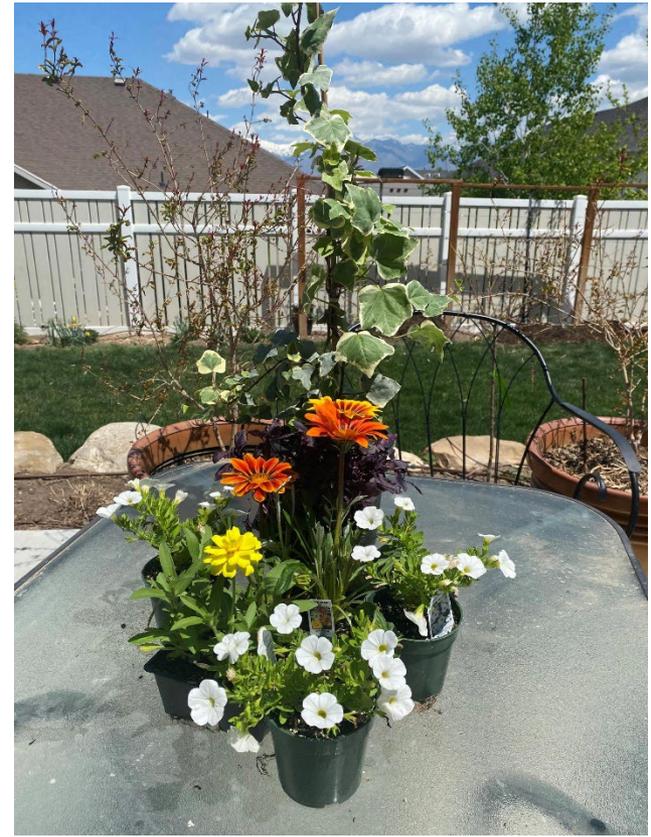
# Trying out some Spillers





Deciding on a Filler

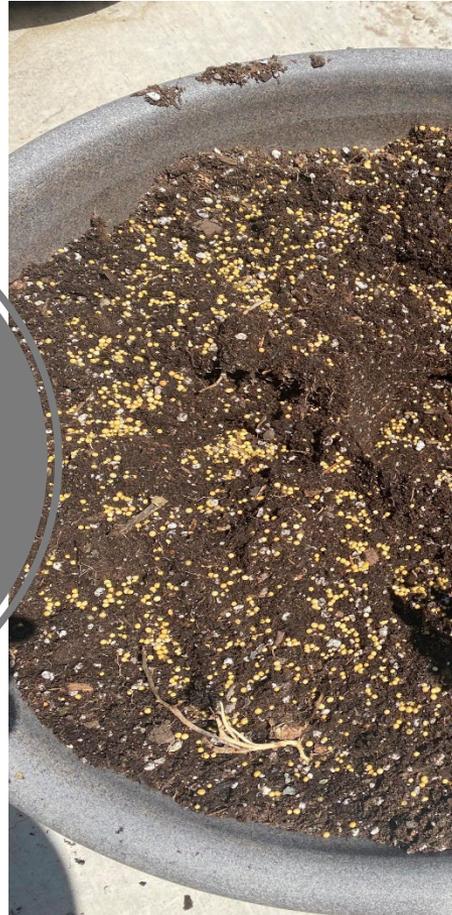
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Final Arrangement choices

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Fertilized and  
Planted!



# Tips for Continual Blooms and Healthy Plants

Check	Check the containers often for water needs. As the plants grow, the roots fill the pot, and the container dries out faster.
Fertilize about	Fertilize about every 2 weeks during the hot summer months. The frequent watering flushes the nutrients from the soil.
Head	Dead Head: Snip off the dead flowers or out-of-balanced growth from plants to keep the shape and to encourage new growth and flowering.
Changing	Changing plants: If a plant dies or you want to put in a different plant later in the season, use a sharp knife and cut a circle around the plant to remove it. Slip in the replacement plant.



Enjoy your  
new talent!