

GARDENING IN CONTAINERS

The trend towards container gardening can be explained:

- First it gives us the ability to garden almost anywhere.
- Next, pots can be moved around to change a mood or vista.
- Plants in pots can be changed seasonally or even just on a whim.
- Finally, we don't need to limit ourselves to colourful annuals alone. Perennials, ornamental grasses, herbs, trees and shrubs, almost anything can be grown in pots. The possibilities and combinations are endless.



THE HOW-TOS

Choose your pots

- Look for pots with good drainage holes and winter weather resistance.
- Select pots that are the right style and colour for the intended location.
- Choose pots that are the right size to accommodate the plants.

Select the Plants

- Choose plants compatible to the situation...sunny or shady, windy or sheltered, etc.
- Choose plants compatible with one another...shade dwellers, sun worshippers, moist or dry soil lovers.
- Keep it simple...too many different colours or textures can result in a busy looking design.
- Choose plants suited to the size, style and shape of the containers.

Soil for Containers

- Maple Leaf's Planter Box Mix is suitable for all types of plants in containers.

The Arrangement

- Place tall plants a little off centre or in the centre of the pot to provide height.
- Lower, bushy plants surround the above & give bulk to the planting.
- Trailing plants placed at the containers edge tumble down the sides & soften the whole combination.

Hint: *Don't be afraid to absolutely pack the container full of plants. Doing this provides an almost instant effect and of course instant gratification.*

WATERING – A TRICKY SUBJECT

- Water needs vary with the season, size and type of container, temperature, location, recent rainfall, etc.
- It's safe to say that if the soil surface looks dry it is probably time to water.
- During prolonged hot, dry weather container plantings may need daily water.
- Containers under cover depend on you to water them, even in the winter.
- Water thoroughly until you see water running freely from the bottom of the container.



FERTILIZING

The easy way:

- Slow release fertilizers such as 14-14-14 feed plants for up to 6 months.

A little more work:

- Water soluble fertilizers like Miracle Gro 15-30-15 are more quickly utilized by plants roots but need to be applied far more often. Always follow package direction.

maple leaf garden centres

West Van Location

2558 Haywood Avenue
Telephone: 604 922 2613

North Van Location

1343 Lynn Valley Road
Telephone: 604 985 1784

www.mapleleafgardencentre.ca

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