choose plants from each group and 1-2-3! you’ve created a container garden.

**tips for success**

- The container must have good drainage.
- Care and feeding – start with a slow-release fertilizer when you plant your container and supplement weekly with a water soluble plant food like Miracle-Gro.
- Don’t forget to water! Aren’t sure if your plants need a drink? Do the finger test – if the soil is dry, water!

- Plants looking tired by mid-summer? Treat your plants to a “Salon Day” – trim, water and fertilize and they’ll fill out and look spectacular for the rest of the summer.

These templates are guides to get you started.
So start planting and remember the most important rules of container gardening:

- have fun
- enjoy the beautiful flowers

**1 THRILLER**

This is the centerpiece – the accent or focal point of your container. They are usually tall, upright plants. If the pot will be viewed from all sides, this plant is usually placed in the center of the container.

**2 FILLER**

Fillers are mounding plants that fill out the pot. They can add textural contrast or a splash of color to your container.

**3 SPILLER**

Spillers are trailing plants that flow over the edge of the container.
1 = Plant from group 1 **THRILLER**
2 = Plant from group 2 **FILLER**
3 = Plant from group 3 **SPILLER**

**Example of a two color combo**
1 - Grass (in back or middle)
2 - Pink petunia or million bells
3 - Blue petunia or million bells

Easy: Pick 2 colors or 2 plant varieties and alternate!

**Example of a three color combo**
Alternate colors or plant varieties
Optional: Place a thriller in the center or back

**Window Box**

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**Window box combo ideas:**

1 - Spike, grass or geranium
2 - Geranium, petunia, lantana or impatiens
3 - Million bells, fan flower or vinca vine

Tip: 6-9 plants for 12”-14” container

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**1 THRILLER**

attention getting, usually tall, upright plants

- Angelonia • Cleome • Coleus • Daisy
- Cordyline • Fennel • Grass • Millet
- Ornamental Pepper • Snapdragon, Rocket
- Persian Shield • Spike • Zinnia

**2 FILLER**

plants that fill up the pot, they weave through the thriller and fill up the pot

- Ageratum • Alyssum • Begonia • Bidens
- Celosia • Chrysanthemum • Coleus
- Cosmos • Cuphea • Dahlia • Dianthus
- Dusty Miller • Euphorbia • Fuchsia • Gazania
- Geranium • Gomphrena • Helichrysum
- Impatiens • Lamium • Lantana • Lobelia
- Lobularia • Marigold • Million Bells
- Nasturtium • Nemesia • New Guineas
- Osteospermum • Pansy • Pentas • Petunia
- Portulaca • Salvia • Sanvitalia • Sedum
- Snapdragon • Torenia • Verbena
- Vinca (Flower) • Zinnia

**3 SPILLER**

plants that fall over the edge of the pot

- Alyssum • Bacopa • Dichondra
- Duranta Golden Edge • Fan Flower (Scaevola)
- Ivy Geranium • Lamium • Lysimachia • Lotus
- Mercadonia • Million Bells • Petunia
- Sedum, Trailing Type • Sweet Potato Vine
- Verbena • Vinca Vine

Red = Easy to grow, great for beginners
Bold = Plants that fill and spill (trail)