

*Choose plants from each group and 1-2-3, you have 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*
- *Don't forget to take photos!*

## **1 ACCENT**

This is the centerpiece – the 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 MOUNDING**

Mounding plants fill out the pot. They can add textural contrast or a splash of color to your container.

## **3 TRAILING**

Trailing plants flow over the edge of the container.



# *easy* Container Design

## **1 - 2 - 3**

*by Sue Adams*



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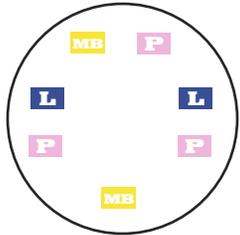
Poughkeepsie • Kingston • Newburgh • Wappinger

# Designing the Container

Yes, accent plants can add the WOW factor, but they are optional. You can create beautiful containers with mounding and trailing as well. Below are ways of creating containers with and without the accent or moving the accent to a different position.

## Number of Plants

- 1- Accent (Grass or Spike) **A** 2- Lobelia **L**  
 2- Million Bells **MB** 3- Petunia **P**

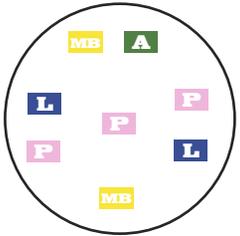


Container without accent

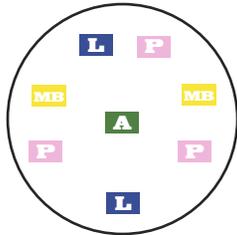


Million Bells Petunia  
Lobelia

This photo is of plants used in these three container templates without an accent plant

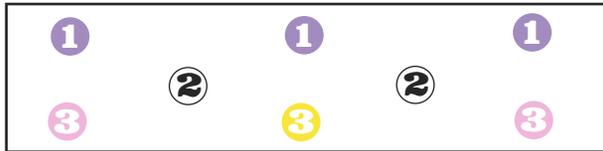


Containers with accent, mounding and trailing plants



# Window Box

Planter #1: Purple, White, Pink and Yellow plants  
 Planter #2: Red, White and Blue plants



1 = Accent 2 = Mounding 3 = Trailing

## 1 ACCENT

*Attention getting, usually tall, upright plants*

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

\* ALSO FILLS OUT THE POT

## 2 MOUNDING

*Plants that fill up the pot*

- Ageratum • Alyssum • Aster • Begonia • Bidens  
 Calla Lilies • Celosia • Chrysanthemum • Cineraria  
 Coleus • Cosmos • Crossandra • Dahlia • Dianthus  
 Dusty Miller • Euphorbia • Fuchsia • Gazania  
 Geranium • Gomphrena • Helichrysum  
 Heliotrope • Impatiens • Lantana • Lobelia  
 Lobularia • Marigold • Million Bells  
 Nemesia • New Guinea Impatiens • Nicotiana  
 Osteospermum (Cape Daisy) • Pansy • Petunia  
 Phlox • Ranunculus • Salvia • Sanvitalia • Sedum  
 Snapdragon • Sunpatiens • Strawflower  
 Torenia • Verbena

\* ALSO TRAILS

## 3 TRAILING

*Plants that fall over the edge of the pot*

- Bacopa • Basket Grass (Oplismus) • Dichondra  
 Fan Flower (Scaevola) • Ivy Geranium  
 Lysimachia (Creeping Jenny) • Lotus • Mercadonia  
 Million Bells • Nasturtium • Petunia • Portulaca  
 Mandevilla • Mezzoo (Dorenathus) • Sedum (Trailing type)  
 Sweet Potato Vine • Verbena • Vinca Vine

\* ALSO FILLS OUT THE POT

Watch our how to video at [adamsfarms.com](http://adamsfarms.com)!

# Monoculture

Using one plant variety



To add height, add one plant from column 1 and place at the back or center.

*How many plants should be used per container?*

There is no right answer, but we can give you a guide:

10" Container  
3-4 Plants

12-14" Container  
5-8 Plants

16" Container  
8-12 Plants



*What to consider when choosing how many plants:*

- Vigor and final size
- Do you need to have your container look finished quickly? Add more than recommended.
- Don't worry if you plant too many. The most vigorous will take over, but you will still have a pretty container. Just take notes or pictures for next time.

# Vegetable Containers

Many vegetables and herbs can be grown in a container. See our Easy Vegetable Gardening brochure at [adamsfarms.com](http://adamsfarms.com).

Vigorous vegetables like squash and eggplant will need a large container for just one plant. You can make a tomato combo using one patio tomato plant and adding one plant each of basil, parsley, oregano and thyme.

# Garden Options

## Row Cropping

Place plants in single file rows at least 18" apart so you have plenty of room to work between them.

## Intensive Cropping

Use wide bands, generally 1-4' across and as long as you would like. Reduces the amount of area needed for paths, but does mean you will have to weed by hand.



## Raised Beds

Start with a box made of rot-resistant wood, like cedar or redwood, at least 12" deep and 4' wide. The benefits? You can tailor the soil to what you plant, deter pests like woodchucks, improve drainage and have a variety of plants in a small space that you can easily reach for maintenance and harvesting. Another plus is that smaller, higher space means warmer soil and therefore a longer growing season.

## Vertical Gardening

A vertical garden can be created by using shelves (even a recycled pallet), baskets or trellises.



## Containers

For most vegetables, the container should be 5 gallons (16" or larger) with good drainage.

- Synthetic soils work best - no weeds, great drainage.
- Vegetables in containers need water and fertilizer. Check daily and use Miracle-Gro when you water.
- Look for determinate varieties (see Tomato Tips on [adamsfarms.com](http://adamsfarms.com)) or plants labeled compact.
- Include flowers in your combinations!

## Container Friendly Vegetables

**Beans • Peppers  
Swiss Chard  
Cucumbers  
Herbs • Lettuce  
Spinach • Peas  
Potatoes  
Spinach • Chard**

### Eggplant

Most varieties grow well in containers. Be sure to feed these hungry plants!

### Tomatoes

Look for determinate varieties, plants with fruits that come out at the end of the vine, like Patio.

## *Pot to Plate, Garden to Table...*

Don't forget to plant flowers to enjoy while you relish the fruits of your labor!



# easy Vegetable Gardening

*by Mark & Sue Adams*



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[www.adamsfarms.com](http://www.adamsfarms.com)

# Tips for Beginners

## Start Small

One tomato plant can yield 10lbs of tomatoes! Tomatoes, peppers and herbs keep providing throughout the season. Other vegetables like lettuce and beans can be planted more than once.

## Lots of Sun

Most vegetables need 6-8 hours of direct sun per day. Exceptions are leafy vegetables like lettuce and spinach.

## Put up a Fence

Deer and woodchucks love vegetables. A fence installed now will last a lifetime.

## Soil

Most vegetables do well in moist, well drained soil that is rich in organic matter such as compost or peat moss.

## Water

Water right after planting and during dry spells.

## Feed Your Plants

Work granular fertilizer or a slow-release fertilizer (Osmocote for Vegetable and Bedding) into the soil when you first plant, then supplement during the season. Feed the plants and they'll feed you!

## Mulch!

Mulching not only conserves water, but it also discourages weeds from growing.

- Black Plastic – Put down in rows then, using a trowel, make a hole in the plastic and insert the plant. Cover with a little soil and granular fertilizer.
- Straw, Grass Clippings, Bark Chips – Spread your choice around the plants and the paths between the plants.

# Planting Schedule

	APRIL	LATE MAY	JUNE	JULY	SPECIAL NOTES
<b>Basil</b>		Plants	Plants	Plants	
<b>Beans</b>		Seeds or Plants	Seeds or Plants	Plants	Plant July for Fall Crop
<b>Beets</b>	Seeds	Seeds or Plants	Seeds or Plants		
<b>Broccoli</b>	Plants	Plants	Plants	Plants	Plant July for Fall Crop
<b>Brussels Sprouts</b>	Plants	Plants			
<b>Cabbage</b>	Plants			Plants	Plant July for Fall Crop
<b>Carrots</b>	Seeds	Seeds			Mulch for Nov. harvest
<b>Cauliflower</b>	Plants	Plants		Plants	Plant July for Fall Crop
<b>Celery</b>		Plants			
<b>Chard</b>	Plants	Plants			Harvest as cut & come again
<b>Collards</b>	Seeds or Plants	Plants	Plants	Plants	Plant July for Fall Crop
<b>Corn</b>		Seeds or Plants			Plant at least 2 rows for pollination
<b>Cucumbers</b>		Seeds or Plants	Seeds or Plants		
<b>Dill</b>		Plants			
<b>Eggplant</b>		Plants			Loves to eat - Fertilize!
<b>Garlic</b>					Plant in the Fall
<b>Kale</b>	Plants	Plants	Plants		
<b>Kohlrabi</b>	Plants	Plants			
<b>Leek</b>	Plants				
<b>Lettuce</b>	Plants			Plants	Harvest every other head to allow new ones more room
<b>Melons</b>		Plants			
<b>Mustard Greens</b>	Seeds				
<b>Okra</b>		Seeds			
<b>Onion</b>	Plants or Bulbs	Plants or Bulbs			
<b>Parsley</b>	Plants	Plants			
<b>Parsnips</b>	Seeds				Can be overwintered
<b>Peas</b>	Seeds				After harvest, plant beans
<b>Peppers</b>		Plants			
<b>Perennial Herbs</b>	Plants				
<b>Potatoes</b>		Plants			
<b>Radish</b>	Seeds			Seeds	Plant July for Fall Crop
<b>Rutabaga</b>	Seeds				Best when mature in the Fall
<b>Spinach</b>	Seeds			Seeds	Plant July for Fall Crop
<b>Squash - Summer</b>		Seeds or Plants			Plant again & again!
<b>Squash - Winter, Gourds, Pumpkins</b>		Seeds or Plants			
<b>Tomato</b>		Plants			
<b>Turnip</b>	Seeds				

**RED PLANTS**  
Can be planted more than once.  
Keep your garden growing!