

Container Gardening

What you need for a faerie container garden:

1. Container must have drainage, preferably hole[s] in the bottom or a layer of perlite/gravel/shards from terra cotta pots in the bottom. Refer to the book list and the web sites for container ideas.
2. Container have room for at least 3 1/2 -4" of potting mix for adequate root growth.
3. Plants should be odd numbered, e.i. 1,3, 5 etc.
4. Plants should have the similiar requirements for sunlight and water, e.i. don't put a cactus and a hosta in the same planter.
5. Plants should have different shapes. Easy way to remember is "Thriller" a taller, spikey plant, e.i. grass, small tree; "Filler" a medium size plant that fills in the middle, e.i. pansies, johnny-jump-ups; "Spiller" vining plants that spill over the container' rim to soften the edges, e.i. ivy, creeping thyme.
4. Texture; leaf shapes and forms e.i. Chives vs. sage vs rosemary.
5. Color; can be different colored foilage and /or blossoms. e.i. chive [green] with lavender blossom, next to red leaf basil [burguny] , Sage with a gray-green leaf /variegated leaf and lavender /red or/cream spikes of blooms.
6. If working with children check see if plants are toxic and/or poisonous, e.i. Lilies-of-the-valley, fox glove.

Place shards, gravel, and/or perlite over the coffee filter [helps keep the potting mix in] in bottom of container. Next fill container to within 2"from the top with potting mix. Pat the mix down and arrange plants and large items in container. Plant and place large item[s] in mix. Put in all your plants before laying down a path[if you have a path]. Let you imagination take over and have FUN! And accessorize!!!! :)

Thank you for joining me today. 3/9/2013

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Grant Co. Master Gardeners Assn.