



## **Potted Winter Colour Melissa King 05/05/10**

### **Container Combo's**

Striking potted displays are a great way to keep the garden looking good through the cooler months. Choosing and combining plants to match decorative containers is great fun.

Here's three very different looks to inspire you!

#### **1. DRAMATIC LOOK**

##### **The pot:**

- Primo Helix Egg 38 cm x 36 cm pot
- Vibrant blue glazed finish

##### **The plants:**

- **Salvia 'Wendy's Wish'** displays brilliant magenta coloured flowers over a long season. It flowers throughout the warmer months and well into autumn. The tubular flowers are capped by a colourful calyx which remains on the plant well into winter, extending colour and interest.
- Sunny yellow pansies like '**Delta Yellow**' look sensational in blue glazed containers.
- **Pansy 'Giant Ocean'** is another knock-out with contrasting brilliant purple blooms.
- **Alyssum 'Sugar Plum'** is an annual groundcover with sweetly scented pink-purple blooms. It flowers sporadically for most of the year.

#### **2. SOFT, ROMANTIC LOOK**

##### **The pot:**

- Primo Mod egg 28 cm x 28 cm pot
- Stylish cream glazed finish

##### **The plants:**

- Use pansies and violas in soft whimsical shades. Try **Pansy 'Rainbow Ruffle'** with frilly flowers in soft antique shades or **Viola 'Rock Candy'** with petite pink flowers.
- Add a splash of silver with **Cineraria 'Silver Dust'**. You would grow this plant for its foliage alone. It has decorative deeply lobed silver grey leaves.

#### **3. STRIKING FOLIAGE**

##### **The Pot:**

Café STYLE Roma Square in Charcoal 30 cm x 27 cm pot. Café style pots are hand crafted and finished. They come in a range of modern styles and warm colours including charcoal, chocolate and sand.

### **The plants:**

- Make a statement with **Euphorbias** in a variety of foliage colours. Try **Euphorbia 'Black Bird'** with bronze green foliage and striking, deep purple new growth. It also displays soft lime coloured flowers from late winter through spring. **Euphorbia 'Ascot Rainbow'** is especially attractive, with unique variegated foliage that looks good in every season. You'll also love **Euphorbia 'Silver Swan'** with striking, variegated foliage of grey green with silvery edging year round. It has the bonus of creamy coloured flowers from late winter through spring
- You could also make a real foliage feature with **Sedum 'Silver Blob'**. It displays mounds of decorative silver foliage year round. It is very dry tolerant.

### **Here are some top tips for the perfect potted display:**

- First choose your decorative pot. Draw inspiration for your planting scheme from the colour, texture and design.
- Pick colourful flowers or foliage to set off the colour of your container.
- Team plants together that enjoy similar growing conditions.
- Keep plants well-groomed by snipping off any yellowing or dead leaves or flowers.