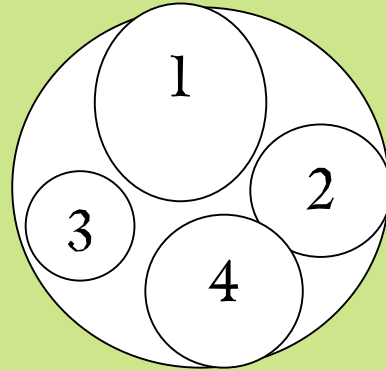


Recipe Card for the
Container Design of the Month
Designed by Laura Altvater of Portland Nursery

August

Design of the Month



Simple Elegance

1. *Dryopteris erythrosa* 'Brilliance'
2. *Heucherella* 'Gold Cascade'
3. *Lysmachia* n. 'Aurea'
4. Begonia 'Sparks Will Fly'

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Steps:

1. Fill your container 2/3 of the way with all-purpose Potting Soil such as E.B. Stone Edna's Best.
2. Mix some fertilizer into the soil in the container. We have always had exceptional results with E.B. Stone Sure Start and Osmocote.
3. Moistening the soil so that it is damp is an important step if your potting soil is old or on the dry side. Most fresh bags of soil should take up water evenly when you water the plants.
4. Plant your container. It helps to gently loosen the roots of each plant to enhance root development.
5. Fill the nooks and crannies with moist potting soil.
6. Water your newly planted container thoroughly and enjoy!

Substitutions:

Sometimes you cannot find the exact cultivated variety we have listed above. Luckily there are substitutions that will offer a similar or even preferred look. Mother Fern can add a tropical look, Coleus can add a splash of color and Margurite sweet potato vine is a great chartreuse spiller.

Care and Maintenance:

The plants in this container will thrive in morning sun or part shade and bloom through June to frost. Even after they stop the striking foliage contrast will add pop to any area. The Autumn fern is evergreen, and the Heucherella and Lysmachia are perennial. The begonia can be replaced in winter with a pansy. Water thoroughly when the top inch of soil is dry.