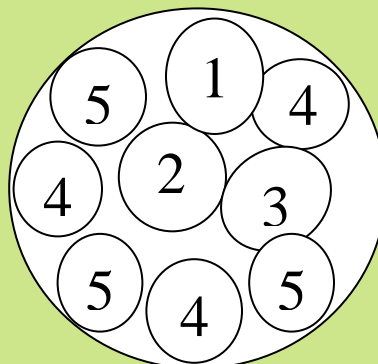


Recipe Card for the  
Container Design of the Month  
Designed by Laura Altvater of Portland Nursery

March

Design of the Month



Bright-eyed & Bushy-tailed

1. *Cordyline aus.* 'Torbay Dazzler'
2. *Euphorbia* 'Rudolph'
3. Thyme, lemon variegated
4. *Calluna* 'Spring Torch'
5. *Ranunculus* 'Mache Yellow & Red'

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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. Anemone can add a bright focal point for a Dianthus offer a wide array of color choices and fragrance.

Care and Maintenance:

The plants in this container will thrive in full and bloom through May or later. Even after they stop the striking, evergreen foliage contrast will add pop to any area. The ranunculus can be replaced with summer annuals such as Osteospermum or Calendula daisies. Water thoroughly when the top inch of soil is dry. Top dress and gently scratch into the surface some granular all-purpose fertilizer 3 months after planting. This should last your plants until fall.