

CREATING BEAUTIFUL CONTAINERS

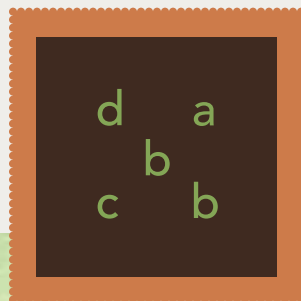


Just like all other aspects of your home's décor, container plantings to adorn decks and patios should reflect your own tastes and personal style. Many gardeners plan combinations around color schemes, often taken from exterior house paint or garden accents and furniture. It's certainly not our intention to stifle creativity but if you're looking for some inspiration, here are two combos sure to impress your friends and neighbors.

Feel free to substitute other plants (with similar habits) for those in the recipe but be sure to pay attention to light and watering needs so your combo works well together. Check out these fantastic upright containers—one for sun and one for shade. If these two combos appeal to you, 198 more can be found in the book, *Absolutely Beautiful Containers* by Sue Amatangelo. Order your copy online at www.ballbookshelf.com.

combination: sun

- a** *Colocasia* 'Black Magic' (U)
- b** *Angelonia* 'Angelmist Dark Pink' (U)
- c** *Petunia* 'Easy Wave Shell Pink' (T/M)
- d** *Pennisetum setaceum* (fountain grass) (U)



difficulty Moderate

container 14-inch, square ceramic, 3 feet tall

light Sun

comments The dark smokey color of *Colocasia* 'Black Magic' complements the color of the container.

tip Any of the eight *Petunia* 'Easy Wave' colors will be a flattering addition to this combination.



Each issue, *Green Profit* organizes a ready-made class on livegood and hardgood topics in the form of a magazine page you can tear out, even giving it to customers who want questions answered, myths debunked and a reason to be in a garden environment, regardless of the season. You provide the customers and example products; we'll do the rest.

combination: shade

- a** *Begonia* 'Dragon Wing Pink' (M/T)
- b** *Hypoestes* 'Splash Red' (M)
- c** *Colocasia* 'Black Magic' (U)
- d** *Impatiens walleriana* 'Fiesta White' (double impatiens) (M)
- e** *Coleus* 'Wizard Velvet' (U)

difficulty Moderate to difficult

container 18-inch round on a pedestal

light Part sun/part shade

comments You can use two *Colocasia* 'Black Magic' for a lot of leaf power above the rest of the container. If you are afraid the begonia may overpower the hypoestes, you can eliminate the hypoestes completely; it won't affect the look of the combination.

tip Substitute *Begonia* 'Dragon Wing Pink' with 'Dragon Wing Red' or *Impatiens* 'Fiesta White' with 'Fusion Infrared' or 'Fanfare Bright Coral'. 🌿



By Bill Calkins using examples from the new book *Absolutely Beautiful Containers* by Sue Amatangelo.
For 198 more combo ideas, order your copy online at www.ballbookshelf.com or call (888) 888-0013.