

## We're Here to Help!

Visit us at Phelan Gardens to see great combinations in action. You will find that we use annuals, perennials, herbs, and even shrubs in our containers.

Our wide selection of new annual varieties plus tried and true favorites will give you endless options for your own creations.

Explore the world of contrast, color, and texture in creating your own container gardens OR simply select from our many containers.



Open Year-Round  
7 days a week  
4955 Austin Bluffs Parkway  
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[www.phelanguardens.com](http://www.phelanguardens.com)

- \*local gardening information
- \*upcoming classes & events
- \*what's new at Phelan Gardens

### Connect With Us!

Our monthly newsletter is offered via e-mail. Sign up in-store or on our website to receive special offers, class & event updates and seasonal gardening tips.

### Follow Us On Social Media



## Container Gardening

Accentuating your home with contained color and texture



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## Can't Contain Yourself?



Quiet messages are conveyed when beautiful container gardens accentuate entryways, patios, decks, or special retreat areas. By following a few simple tips you can create a unique and pleasing display to

enhance your home and landscape.

### Use Appropriate Soil

Potting soil for containers should be light and porous. *Fertilome Ultimate Potting Soil* is a wonderful medium. It is light and fertilizer free, which gives you flexibility to feed your plants as they need it. Be careful of a chain store's brand of "Deluxe Potting Soil," as so often it is not so deluxe. Use fresh soil each year. Never use garden soil in containers. It is much too heavy, and has inadequate drainage and air circulation.

Consider using **polymers** in your containers at the time of planting to reduce the frequency of watering and overall drought stress to your plants. Make sure to mix them in at the root level of the soil and not on the surface.

### Fertilize

You will need to fertilize plants in your containers to maximize blooms. We recommend using a slow release fertilizer incorporated at the time of planting (Osmocote/ Marine Cuisine), followed by a liquid feed once the plants have taken root and are actively growing.

### Get Creative With Your Container

Some of the most interesting displays are planted in a variety of containers. Some suggestions include:

- antiques
- wheelbarrows
- hollowed out driftwood
- moss baskets
- ceramic pots
- window boxes
- clay figurines

Choose a style that best suits your situation and personality. For a large open area, use a 14" wide container or larger OR group several containers together to create a larger focal point. For smaller areas, containers that are 5"-12" wide are adequate.

### Choose Appropriate Plants

Determine how much sun your container garden will receive over the course of the day and acquire plants with similar light requirements. If the location receives four hours or less of direct sun a day, think shade or part-shade loving plants. Five plus hours of sun should have you looking for the sun worshippers.  
**(see list at right)**

### Move Them Around

Containers have the bonus of being mobile. Use them as a way to spruce up an area of your garden that has temporarily lost its luster. Just move your containers around your garden throughout the season to add a pop of color where you need it most. *Note: Phelan's sells plant 'movers' (wheel castors for the bottom of your planters) to make easy work of moving your planters around your deck or patio.*

#### Annuals for Shade

Impatiens  
Begonias  
Coleus  
Torenia  
Vinca Vine  
English Ivy  
Dracaena  
Peace Lilies (*and most tropicals*)  
Pansies  
Violas

#### Annuals for Hot Sun

Lantana  
Moss Rose  
Calibrachoa  
Geraniums  
Petunias  
Scaevola  
Celosia  
Dusty Miller  
Marigolds  
Grasses  
Osteospermums

