

The Formula for a Great Container

- 1) Choose your “thriller”—a flower with a large, colorful bloom that will have plenty of visual impact: think geraniums, wave petunias, begonias, verbenas, or gerbera daisies. Often these plants are the tallest in the container.
- 2) Then choose a “filler” which fills the space and accentuates the thriller. Diamond Frost euphorbia, Sprengeri, often called asparagus fern, or smaller flowers with many blooms or lots of fluffy foliage often fill this role.
- 3) Add a “spiller,” a trailing plant, blooming or foliage, grounds the pot. Scaevola, bacopa, variegated vinca vine, sweet potato vines, even a number of fragrant herbs, can fill this role.
- 4) If your “thriller” doesn’t give you enough height, I like to add a “pillar,” such as dracaena spikes, or tritoma to draw the eye upward. Victoria Blue Salvia or angelonia are also upright enough to serve the purpose, but make sure they complement rather than compete with the “thriller” which is your main attraction.