

GROWING UP

Hanging baskets are making a comeback, and with these creative display ideas and plant combos, they're more stylish than ever.



**HOSTAS CAN
GO IN THE
GROUND
COME FALL.**

**PLANT
NEEDS**

LIGHT
Shade to part
shade.

WATER
When dry to
the touch.

GREEN SCREEN Give a porch a sense of enclosure with a wall of plants created by linking multiple sets of containers. (We clipped two containers off a set of three and connected them between two additional sets.) Fill with a variety of small shade-lovers that have different textures, such as this mix of 'Waterfall' blue lobelia, 'Breathless' euphorbia, maidenhair fern, and hostas. *Galvanized Hanging Triple Planter, \$50 each; gardeners.com*

PLANT STYLING: SCOTT JOHNSON



**PLANT
NEEDS**

LIGHT
Full sun.

WATER
When dry to
the touch.

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USE ONE TYPE
OF FLOWER IN
THREE COLORS TO
KEEP THE LOOK
INTERESTING BUT
COHESIVE.

**+ CASCADE
OF FLOWERS**

The baskets of petunias you see so frequently at garden centers take on new personality when clustered as a trio. Repotted in matching baskets hung at different heights, 'Original Wave' petunias create a chandelier effect. *Weave Self-Watering Hanging Basket, \$20 each (10"); gardeners.com*

**PLANT
NEEDS**

LIGHT
Full sun.

WATER
When dry to
the touch.

**DRAMA
QUEEN**

Bursting with double flowers, the orange 'Bossa Nova' begonia is a natural showpiece that blooms vigorously all summer. Pair with sweet potato vine and trailing silvery dichondra for extra oomph. Don't worry about the container for these; anything big and moss-lined is fine because the plants will quickly fill out and hide it.



**PLANT
NEEDS**

LIGHT
Full sun.

WATER
Every few
days (they
can handle
some
dryness).

**TROPICAL
PUNCH**

Its drought-tolerant plants mean this exotic-looking container can survive a little neglect. Start with a spiky bromeliad as a focal point; fill out with variegated 'Mrs. Pollock' geranium and yellow 'Mojave' portulaca for softness and color. *Zinc Sphere Hanging Basket, \$98 (large); shopterrain.com*



Get our step-by-step guide to planting hanging baskets. Simply hover your smartphone camera over this smart code.



**PLANT
NEEDS**

LIGHT
Part to full sun
in cool
weather;
shade in hot
weather.

WATER
Check daily,
and don't let it
stay dry for
more than a
day.

TIPS FOR SUCCESS

PROVIDE SUPPORT

You'll want a 3- to 4-inch steel screw eye hook to support the weight of a hanging basket; insert it in a sturdy overhang or pergola. To mount a basket on a fence or post, use a plant-hanger bracket with a curved hook.

SIMPLIFY WATERING

To water containers without having to take them down, invest in a watering wand. (Many are \$20 or less.) Or look for planters with built-in reservoirs to buy yourself some time.

GIVE THEM A SPIN

Turn baskets every week or so to ensure plants get an even amount of sun. A swivel snap (sold at hardware stores) makes this especially easy.

SALAD BOWL

Pretty lettuces and greens deserve to be brought to eye level. This basket includes small lettuces, a red-veined sorrel, a feathery-leaf kale, mint, and oregano for a range of colors and textures. Harvest leaves regularly to eat and to keep the container tidy. *Watertight Rattan Low Bowl* (similar to shown; needs a drainage hole drilled into it), \$48; shopterrain.com ■