

# Fall Container Gardening

Container gardening in the Fall is a fun, easy and space saving way to extend your growing season for cool weather crops such as lettuces, herbs, greens (kale, collards, swiss chard), green onions, cauliflower, broccoli and garlic.

Containers can be anything you have on hand that will allow good drainage. The wider the circumference of the container the more you can plant. Lettuces, herbs and greens have roots that will sustain the plants in shallow soil so the container can be as little as 12" deep or a bit more if you want to try broccoli or cauliflower.

The soil should be a good grade of potting soil (not garden soil as it is not porous enough). If the pot is heavy you can fill the bottom 1/3 with packing peanuts and then top with a good quality potting soil filling to 1" below the rim of the container. Plant your seeds or seedlings keeping in mind that they will spread. If you are planting lettuce seeds they can be placed thinly on the soil surface and lightly pressed into the soil and watered using a sprayer.

If your pot will be viewed from all sides you can plant green onions or the taller herbs in the middle as your focal and lettuces around it to fill in. Most vegetables need 6-8 hours of sun and herbs such as basil, savory, thyme also like full sun.

Water the container thoroughly and keep in mind that plants in containers need to be watered more frequently than plants in the ground.

The choices for container gardening are endless and evergreen trees and shrubs, perennials and bulbs can also be used.



Happy Container Gardening!!

Sharon Weil

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