



LANDSCAPE CALENDAR
**OUTDOOR
LIVING**

Instant . *Spring*

with container gardening

By Jon George

This Gainesville home was spruced up for spring with a decorative urn placed strategically on a pedestal in view of the front door. By quickly replacing annuals for spring, the whole house looks brighter and more inviting. Each new season brings the benefit of a new color scheme. In this case, cream colored zinnias complement the deep purple spikes of delphiniums growing below.

Garden Idea #1

Make sure your container garden stays moist. The roots of plants in pots receive more air flow than they would in the ground. Frequent watering is a must, but there are different ways to achieve this. A micro-mist system with drip tubing running to each pot delivers great results, or you may select a potting soil with moisture retention properties to extend times between watering.

Garden Idea #2

Determine how much sun or shade your container garden will need. This pot overflowing with a groundcover rose (below) would be a good choice for an open deck receiving at least a half a day of sun. Ferns make a classic southern statement for the front porch (left), and are a good choice for a shady spot receiving less than three hours of sunlight per day.



The super-tough category for potted plants include the Sapphire Skies yucca (above, top) with dramatic foliage that is soft tipped and blue-green in color and the ever-popular red geranium (above). Both withstand neglect and prefer to dry out between watering. Select a container and happy gardening!

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