

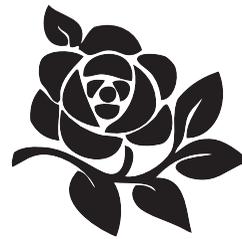


Japanese anemone x hybrida looks like black current.

How to Make a Hanging Basket

1. Any sturdy container that has a hole in the bottom can work including buckets, colanders, or old boots. Plastic planters are the least expensive, however they are also the least attractive. Once the plantings are mature, the container could be covered with greenery, but I prefer to use a wire basket. Line the wire basket with sphagnum moss, coco-fiber, burlap, or even discarded fabric and soak the liner overnight.
2. Add a lightweight potting soil to cover a few inches of the bottom. Don't use garden soil as it is too heavy. The goal is to have a lightweight soil that doesn't compact to promote proper drainage.
3. Plant the flowers, herbs or vegetables you wish and cover with soil.
4. Water thoroughly, making sure that the soil doesn't wash away.
5. Fill with more soil.
6. Water again.
7. Add a moss top layer to help with water retention.
8. If you are using a wire basket, poke holes in various places and plant your specimens to exhibit a full, rounded globe.
9. Anchor hooks securely to an area that receives ample sunlight. Keep in mind these baskets can become very heavy.
10. Water daily, or check if the basket needs water by inserting a stick into the soil. If it comes out dry, you need to water. Never let the soil get soggy or the roots will drown and the plants will die.
11. Feed monthly with a water-soluble fertilizer or use plant spikes or slow-release fertilizers.

Hanging baskets add the "wow" to any landscape and provide instant curb appeal. When edibles are included, you'll be able to have a meal from a wheel. Fill, spill and thrill. This is a delicious autumn!



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