



## How to Choose Plants for Your Hanging Baskets

### Project Difficulty



*Choosing the plants for your Sphagnum Moss-lined Hanging Baskets is a wonderful way to set the theme of your garden and delight your visitors with a magnificent show of color. Once you customize your first hanging basket you'll want to make many more.*

### Products You'll Need



Long Fibered  
Sphagnum Moss

### Supplies You'll Need

- Hanging Wire Basket
- Soil
- Gardening Gloves
- Selected Plants

Selecting the plants for your Sphagnum Moss-lined Hanging Baskets should compliment your growing season and the effect you want to create. Annuals or perennials mixed with complementary foliage can complement the existing features in your landscape. It is important to keep in mind the following points when selecting plants for your hanging basket:

1. Will the basket be in the shade, broken sunlight, or direct sunlight?
2. Do you want a full basket immediately or are you willing to wait for the plants to grow?
3. Does the plant have a cascading or vining effect?
4. What time of year are you planting? Winter annuals will not do well in the heat of the summer.

If your basket is going to grow outdoors and receive full sun all day, it is best to select plants which love direct sunlight such as: petunias, salvia, geraniums, etc. If your basket will be growing in full shade, choose ivy, fern, begonias or impatiens. Partial light conditions, such as morning shade with afternoon sun or filtered light, is normally best.

Many landscape architects are now designing Sphagnum Moss-lined Hanging Baskets in the form of a sphere. These popularly-designed hanging baskets can be seen in many main streets throughout the United States and Canada. Most are planted with impatiens or begonias. When planting a hanging basket to look like a colorful sphere, make sure that the basket contains more than one color. Multiple shades of the same color family look especially attractive (e.g., red, purple and pink).

Some other unique combinations of plants include impatiens with browallia; poinsettia with fern; and ivy geranium with English ivy.

### **Tropical Effect**



Boston Fern with Strap Leaf  
Caladium  
Spider Plant with Chenille Plant

### **Warm Weather Plant Ideas**



Begonia (wax and tuberous)  
Marigold  
Petunia  
Verbena  
Herbs  
Vinca minor or Vinca major

### **Cold Weather Plant Ideas**



Poinsettia  
Sweet Alyssum  
Petunia  
Pansy  
Primrose  
Sweet William (Dianthus)

### **Vines**



Climbing Rose  
English Ivy  
Strawberry  
Mandevilla  
"Alice Dupont"  
Bougainvilla  
Ivy Geraniums

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