

Rich jewel tones make this painting of Monet's Garden at Giverny gleam. These colors are so lovely, why not create a container using them?



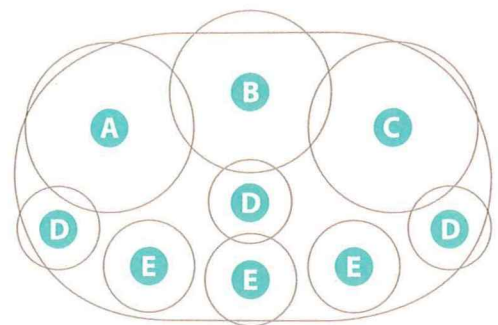
[the inspiration]

# A masterpiece

**MONET'S GARDEN AT GIVERNY** Any gardener who's seen paintings of Monet's famous Giverny garden has wished that his or her own garden looked like that. Well, we don't all have room for beautiful matched borders, but you can take inspiration from the colors, no matter how tiny your garden. In fact, we decided to recreate that look within the confines of a container!

A simple terra-cotta container is a good start — it picks up the warm tones of the painting. Bright red-orange begonias and New Guinea impatiens offer the highlights, while burgundy leaves of coral bells echo the deeper background. A variegated cordyline gives the impression of being sun-dappled, like the light in the painting. And the ferns and begonia leaves pick up the deep green.

But what about the rich blue-purple in the inspiration? Sometimes where you put a container matters just as much as what you put in it. We could have picked a larger container and included the blue ageratum you see on the right side of the photo. But it prefers a little more light and drier soil than the container plants, so a clump of it along the path adds the color without complicating the container care. The container gets just enough shade from taller plants on the other side of the path to be perfectly contented right where it is. So maybe you can't have Giverny, but you can have the look!




**PLANT LIST (number to plant)**



- A** Coral bells *Heuchera villosa* 'Palace Purple' (1)
- B** Cordyline *Cordyline australis* 'Torbay Dazzler' (1)
- ★ **C** New Guinea impatiens *Impatiens* 'Celebrette Orange Crush' (1)
- D** Autumn fern *Dryopteris erythrosora* (3)
- ★ **E** Winged begonia *Begonia* Dragon Wing™ Red ('Bepared') (3)

Container is 18 in. long x 12 in. wide



Picking spent blooms off the New Guinea impatiens and begonia now and then is about the only care this container needs, besides water.

Gently move stems and leaves to get plants to "weave" together. Be careful moving begonias, as the stems are brittle.