



NORTHWEST

★ WA ★ *Lisa Freed*

WELLS MEDINA NURSERY, MEDINA, WASHINGTON

In the Northwest, cool, rainy winters give way to warm, dry summers. Freed enjoys the heft of shrubs and perennials in pots and likes to surround them with seasonal annuals.

THE PLANTS A variety of colors and forms makes this container stand out. The design starts with a textural trio: feathery branches of red-brown peppermint tree (*Agonis flexuosa* 'After Dark'); spiky, variegated New Zealand flax (*Phormium cookianum* 'Flamingo'); and the frilly privet shrub *Ligustrum ovalifolium* 'Lemon and Lime.' Then come hits of color, both dark and bright: cascades of burgundy

Ipomoea batatas 'Ace of Spades' and 'Ultra Red' petunia that drape over the brown-glazed container.

THEIR CARE An initial handful of slow-release fertilizer is all this group needs, along with daily watering in summer heat and the occasional controlling snip.



SOURCES
Southwest: Large square terrazzo planter, \$400, evanpeters.com.
Northwest: Rolled rim egg planter (similar to shown), \$112, campaniainternational.com.
Midwest: Semelin round planter, in graphite-glazed terra-cotta, \$423, campaniainternational.com.

THE PLANTS Overflowing with flowers and foliage, these enormous containers are quietly pretty yet hard not to notice. Reiner set tall, architectural 'Red Sensation' cordylines at the center of the matte black pots and worked out and down from there, tucking in contrasting 'Electric Lime' coleus, eye-catching purples (*Strobilanthes dyeriana*

and 'Supertunia Bordeaux' petunias), and trailing greens (*Cotoneaster adpressus* 'Little Gem').

THEIR CARE The routine for this mix includes checking the soil daily (and watering when it's dry to the touch two inches down) and feeding with a balanced liquid fertilizer. Reiner tip-prunes coleus two to three inches in July and August to keep it from flowering and overgrowing everything else.

MIDWEST

★ OH ★ *Kevin Reiner*

KEVIN REINER DESIGN, GRANVILLE, OHIO

Reiner uses container plantings as landscape focal points and builds compositions in layers, choosing plants that can handle the hot, humid summers.