

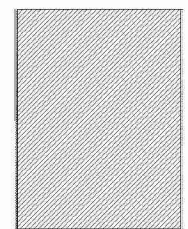
garden | containers

A miniature yellow calla lily takes center stage, surrounded by (clockwise from right) licorice plant, Pearls and Jade pothos, a speckled heuchera, and a rex begonia.

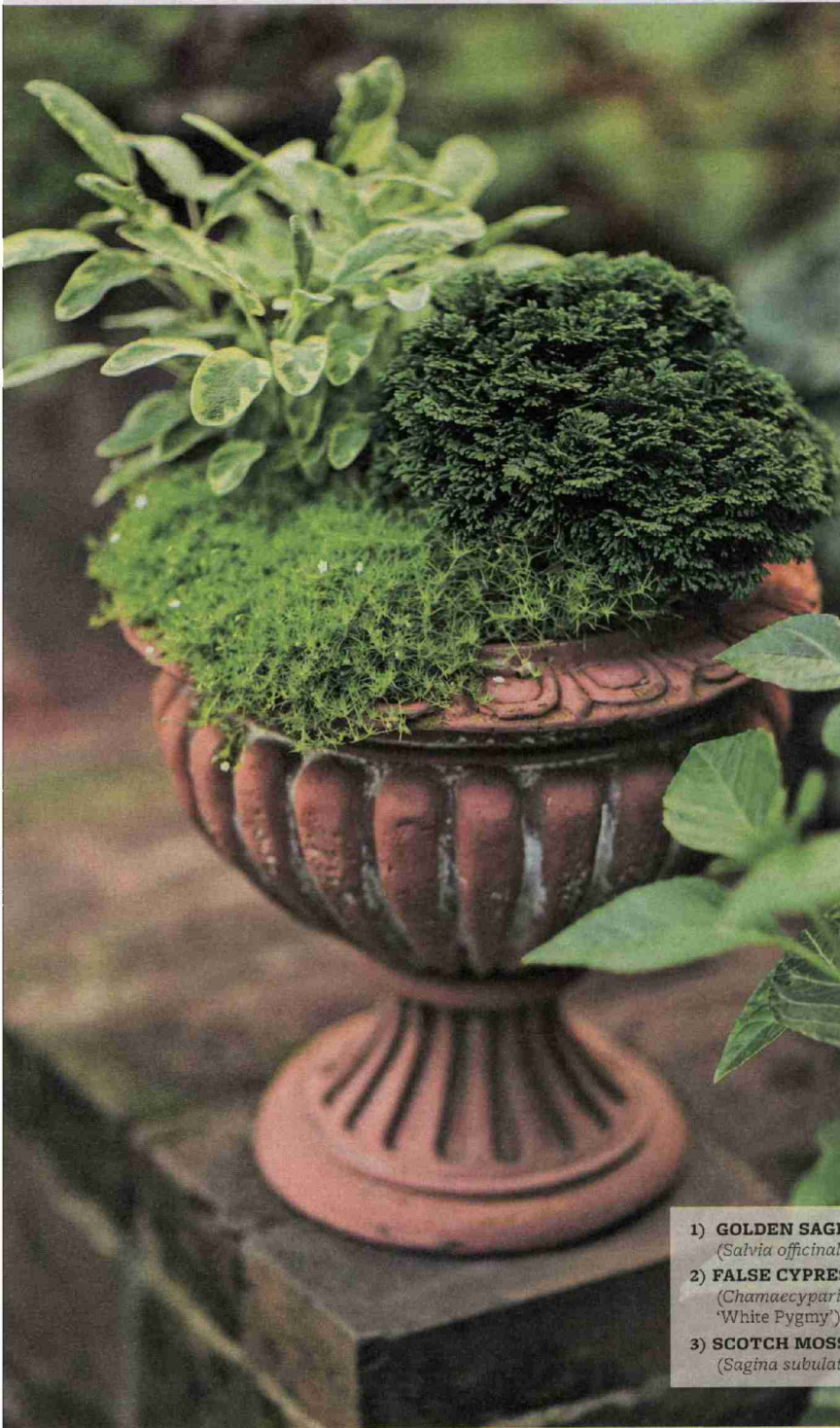
# Festival of Foliage

A container gardener spices up pots with bold leaves and complementary colors.

BY DEBRA PRINZING | PHOTOS BOB STEFKO  
PRODUCED BY MARCELLA SPANOGLA HAWLEY



**garden | containers**



**“Gardens need accessories,**

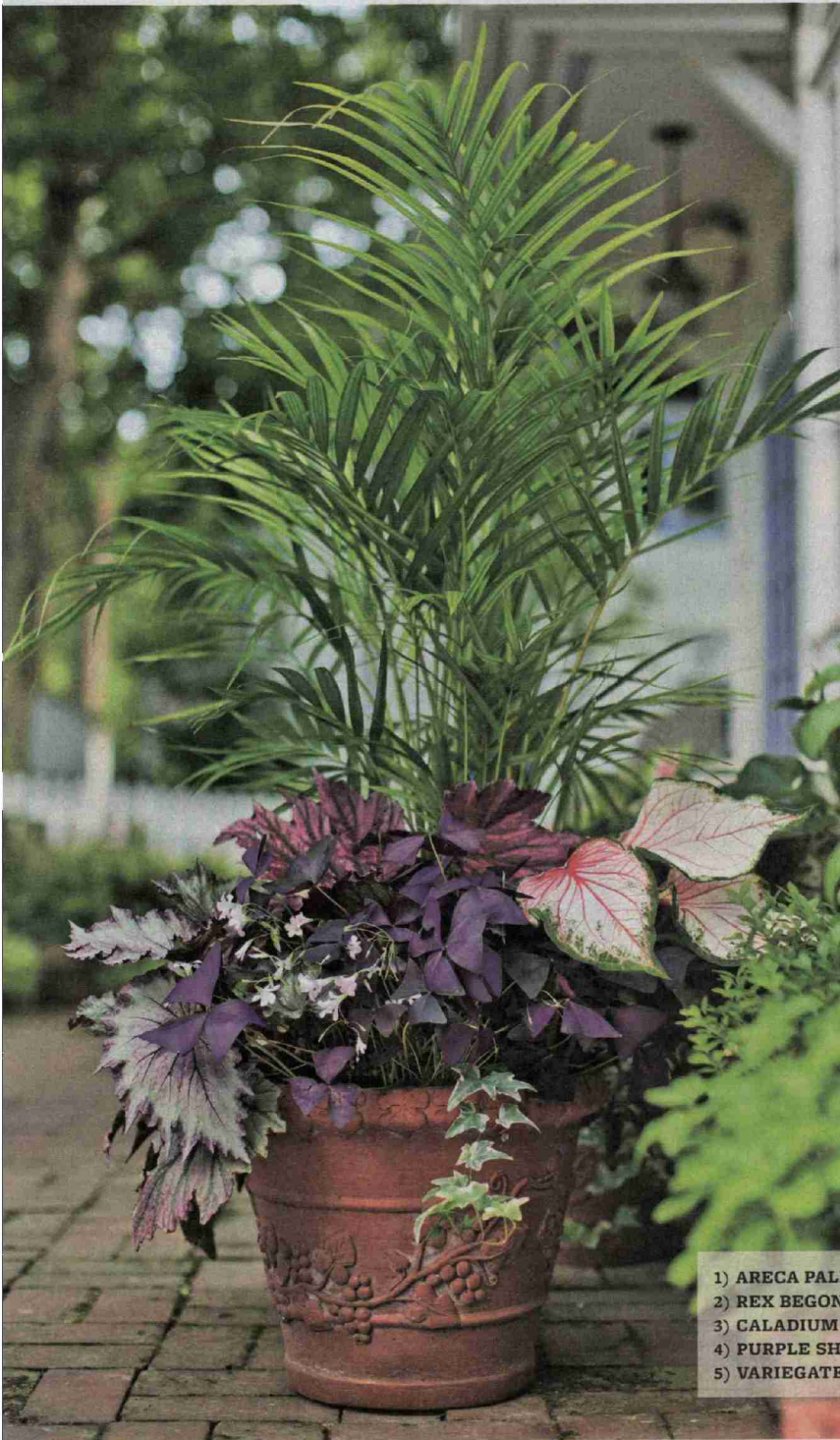
**just like inside,”** Kathy Manganaro says. For this St. Louis-area gardener, that means lots of lush containers. Kathy’s preference for tightly color-coordinated designs, such as this green themed grouping, *left*, gives her pots their unusual style. Her other secrets? She uses lots of tropical plants for their richly colored foliage. And to save money, Kathy brings the tropics indoors for the winter so she doesn’t have to buy new ones when she replants next spring.



- 1) **GOLDEN SAGE**  
(*Salvia officinalis* ‘Icterina’)
- 2) **FALSE CYPRESS**  
(*Chamaecyparis pisifera* ‘White Pygmy’)
- 3) **SCOTCH MOSS**  
(*Sagina subulata* ‘Aurea’)



garden | containers

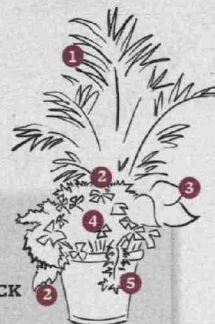


### Tips for perfect pots

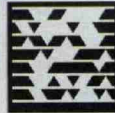
Use Kathy's strategies to keep containers looking great spring through fall.

- 1** For harmonious container groupings, use only one style of pot. Kathy prefers neutral terra-cotta.
- 2** Start designs with colorful foliage—Kathy's favorite is a purple theme—then complement it with flowering plants. "Flowers come and go, but foliage packs a punch the whole season," Kathy says.
- 3** Edit as the season progresses. "If something gets too big or leggy, replace it with a smaller plant," she says.
- 4** Rearrange pots now and then to change the look of your porch or patio.

- 1) ARECA PALM
- 2) REX BEGONIA
- 3) CALADIUM
- 4) PURPLE SHAMROCK
- 5) VARIEGATED IVY



**garden | containers**



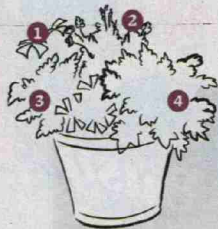
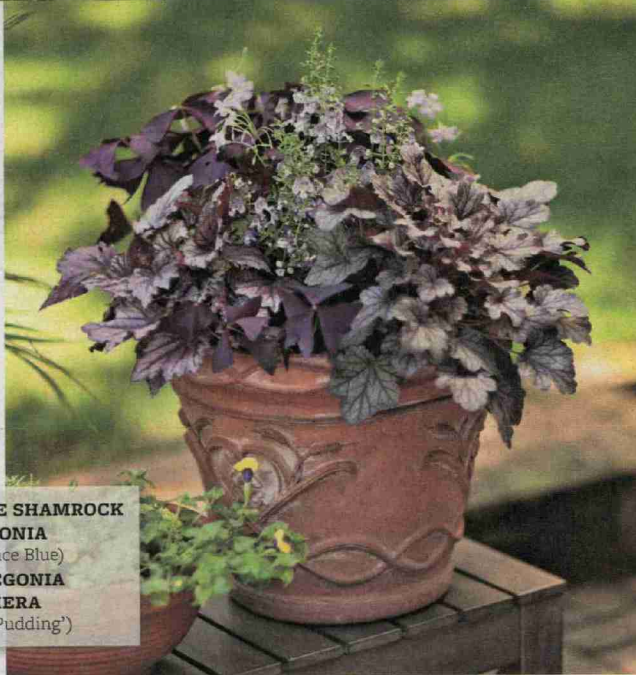
Scan this code or go to [BHG.com/easycontainer](http://BHG.com/easycontainer) to watch our how-to for foolproof containers.



- 1) **IREesine** ('Blazin' Lime')
- 2) **ZONAL GERANIUM**
- 3) **PURPLE FOUNTAINGRASS** ('Fireworks')
- 4) **ANGELONIA** (Angelface Pink)
- 5) **CREEPING JENNY** ('Aurea')

**INNOVATION**  
**Great fakes**

Lightweight faux terra-cotta pots allow Kathy to move her containers around whenever she wants a new look. The latest of these practical, weather-resistant look-alikes—made from resin, fiberglass, or foam—are finally real lookers. It's hard to tell the imitations from their heavier clay or concrete inspirations. Garden centers usually stock them at prices competitive with clay pots. ■



- 1) **PURPLE SHAMROCK**
- 2) **ANGELONIA** (Angelface Blue)
- 3) **REX BEGONIA**
- 4) **HEUCHERA** ('Plum Padding')

**FESTIVAL OF FOLIAGE**

Pages 114–120: plants for annuals and perennials similar to those shown in containers—check local garden retailers and florists (for tropicals and houseplants). [Provenwinners.com](http://Provenwinners.com) and [Monrovia.com](http://Monrovia.com) provide garden center locators on their sites.