

10 MUST-HAVE ANNUAL

TAUNTON'S

# fine Gardening

## Secrets to designing your dream garden

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NOT THAT**  
Alternatives to  
overused plants

**MAKE MORE,**  
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14 recipes  
for gorgeous  
combinations

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## Working with black plants

**Q** I'm seeing some new black petunias at the nursery this year, and I want to know what to pair with such an unusual color?

—Jim Schoville  
Auburn, Indiana



**A** Black can be a daunting color to work with in the garden or in a container. To make sure it pops but doesn't look garish, pair it with chartreuse foliage or hot pink blooms. If, for instance, you're testing out a petunia like 'Phantom' (*Petunia* 'Phantom', annual, photo, top), match it with golden baby's tears (*Soleirolia soleirolii* 'Aurea', Zones 8–11, photo, center) or Intensia® Neon Pink phlox (*Phlox* 'USPHL03', annual, photo, bottom). Either pairing will highlight the purple tones in the black plant, making it appear less odd.