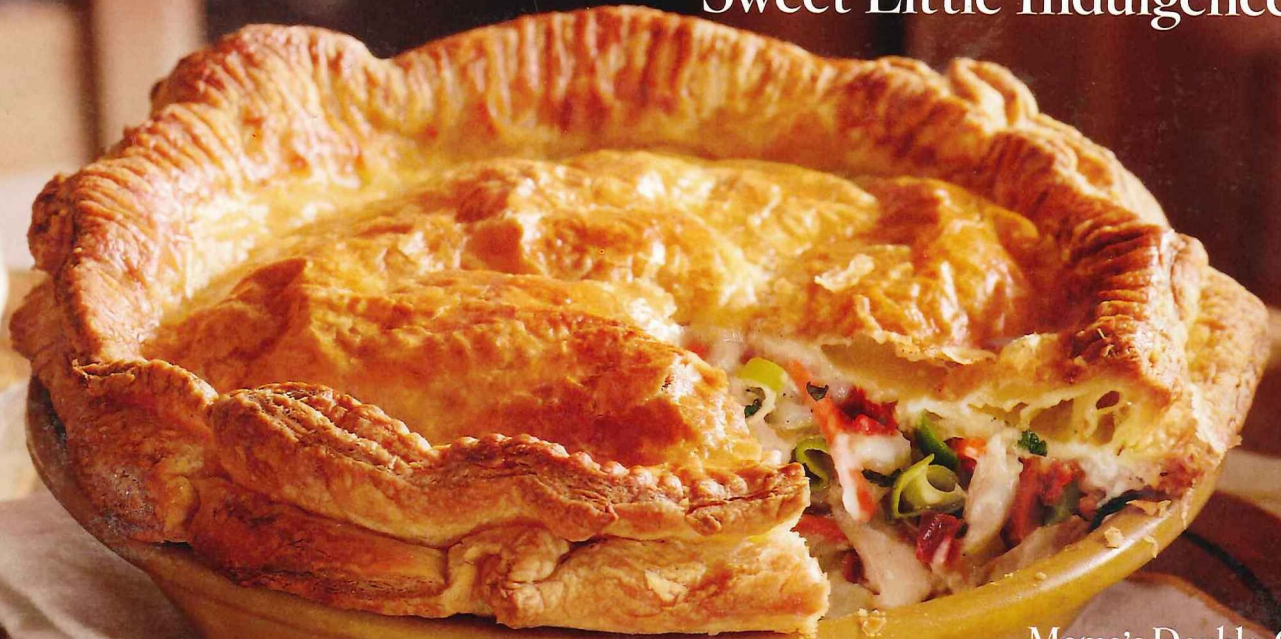


Southern Living®

FEBRUARY 2011

Warm Your Soul

Easy Chicken Pot Pies
Lightened-Up Lasagna
Sweet Little Indulgences



Mama's Double-Crust
Chicken Pot Pie
Page 120

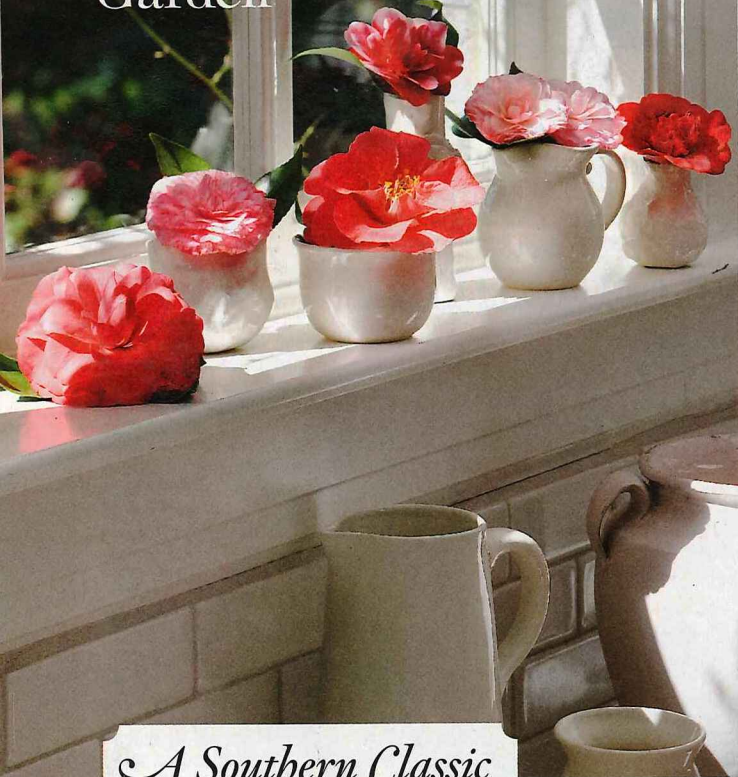
Valentine Gifts!

Fresh New Looks
COTTAGE MAKEOVER
KITCHEN REDO
FURNITURE FACE-LIFTS

Turn Up the Heat!

OUR 30 FAVORITE HOT SAUCES
WITH COOL NEW RECIPES





A Southern Classic

Common camellia (*Camellia japonica*) is the queen of the Southern winter garden, with big, luscious blooms. Camellia's heavy flowers like a little support and work best floating in shallow bowls or displayed in short, heavy vases or pitchers.

WHAT TO KNOW: If you don't have any camellias in your garden, now is a great time to head to your local nursery. You can choose from hundreds of selections, which come in beautiful colors and a variety of bloom types. Buying them while they're in bloom lets you see exactly what you're getting—and get exactly what you want. Also, planting them while it's cool outside gives camellias time to transition before hot weather arrives.

HOW TO GROW: Camellias grow best in a partially shaded location. They like moist, well-drained soil that's rich in organic matter, such as chopped leaves. It's important to water new plants regularly until they are established in your garden. Once settled in, they can be quite drought tolerant. One word of warning: They're addictive.

Other plants are also blooming now. Look in your yard for star magnolia, winter daphne, forsythia, and flowering quince to brighten your windowsill.



Bright, Happy Faces

The prolific blooms of **pansies and violas** (*Viola* sp.) offer a welcome splash of color in wintertime, but many gardeners don't think of using them as cut flowers. You can, though. These delicate flowers work best in small bottles and vases. And—surprise—when you bring them into the warmth of your house, you'll notice (maybe for the first time) their sweet fragrance.

WHAT TO KNOW: If you didn't plant any pansies and violas last fall, you can still add them to your garden now. Most nurseries keep them in stock through winter, though you may have fewer selections to choose from than in the fall.

HOW TO GROW: Plant them in a sunny spot with rich, well-drained soil—or even in containers if you just want a little pop of color. Good drainage is important, so be sure each container has a drainage hole in the bottom.

Choose from many selections of pansies and violas (and hybrids such as Panolas). Try Matrix pansies such as 'Morpheus' and 'Red Wing,' Penny violas such as 'Orange' and 'Lavender Shades,' Sorbet violas such as 'Lemon Chiffon,' and Panolas such as 'Violet Picotee' and 'Beaconsfield.' If you have a serious case of the winter lazies, you can just buy a preplanted container that's ready to go and save all your gardening energy for spring. *

While You're Out...



← **SOOTHING SALVE:** Protect your hands when you garden. Look for Burt's Bees products at your local drugstore or at burtsbees.com.



↑ **SHARP SNIPS:** Joyce Chen scissors are perfect for quick cuts. Find them at your local nursery or online at cutleryandmore.com.

→ **VINTAGE BOTTLES:** Find colorful bottles at flea markets, antiques stores, or ebay.com.

