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FIRSTBOUND

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WE LOVE THIS!
 'Purple Wing'
 Plentifall pansies really
 put on a show. Their
 cascading form is ideal
 for containers.

◀ Tulips

WHY WE LOVE THEM: "If you forgot to underplant annuals with bulbs last fall, add preplanted pots of tulips to your containers now," says Randy Korando of Boxwoods Gardens & Gifts in Atlanta, who created this look for our cover.

PAIR WELL WITH: 'Lavender Blue' and 'Purple Wing' Plentifall pansies, acorus, heuchera, variegated ivy, and 'Tiger' fern (a selection of Boston fern)

TRY THEM IN: Partial to full sun. Randy chose two square concrete planters and displayed them with a small, round concrete pot as a compatible trio.

KEEP THEM HAPPY: Remove spent blooms. Pansies will continue to flower.




▲ Twinspurs

WHY WE LOVE THEM: March weather is unpredictable, so for those cool days, try the prolific pink blooms of 'Strawberry Sundae' twinspurs (*Diascia* hybrid). They will keep looking great even when temperatures fluctuate.

PAIR WELL WITH: 'Penny Lavender Shades' violas and 'Red Russian' kale

TRY THEM IN: Full sun. Gardens Editor Gene Bussell likes the patina of vintage urns. "Antiques stores are great places to shop for containers," he says.

KEEP THEM HAPPY: "Feed with an organic fertilizer, such as Alaska Morbloom (0-10-10), to encourage lots of flowers this spring," says Gene. 

Snapdragons ▶

WHY WE LOVE THEM: "Snapdragons add height to containers," says Editor-at-Large James Farmer, who loves Liberty Classic snapdragons because while they still provide height, they aren't too tall.

PAIR WELL WITH: A mixture of Penny violas, tulips, parsley, and ivy

TRY THEM IN: Full sun. Frost-proof terracotta pots, made from Italian Impruneta clay, echo the warm hues of the snaps.

KEEP THEM HAPPY: Don't forget to water! You want the soil in containers to be evenly moist.



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