Perfect plants for hanging baskets include the Cascade series of petunias; Sky, Pink, Red, Royal, or White are all beauties. Mingle together tiny zinnias of the Buttons, Thumbelina, or Lilliput strains for a rainbow of colors, or try a miniature zinnia variety, Linearis, with golden flowers atop long, thin leaves. Or do a basket with nothing but verbena in a bright color mix--Regalia or the red, white, and blue Spirit of '76 for a cheery, patriotic splash.

Mix and match ageratum Blue Blazer and Summer Snow with any of the Glamour hybrid begonias. Compact plants of the Blue Bells variety of browallia are smothered in blue or white bell-shaped flowers all summer. Plant ivy or scented geraniums by themselves, and the self-branching Carefree or Sprinter variety of geranium with Sapphire or Blue Cascade lobelia. Dwarf marigolds shine in tones of gold or bronze and mix well with white candytuft and nierembergia Purple Robe.

Start semi-trailing Gleam varieties of nasturtium from seed planted in a dry soil and sunny location for blooms in six weeks. And for spheres of color, plant pansies with Rosie O'Day or Carpet of Snow sweet alyssum.