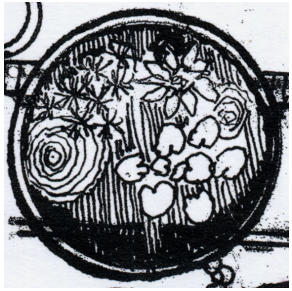


Container Garden



For the plant lover and homeowner with limited space, container gardens can be designed to fit any scale, from a single bowl of cacti and succulents to a townhouse patio or apartment balcony – even a small backyard! Keep in mind, however, that even with limited outdoor space, it is important to consider your outdoor living needs when buying and placing containers such that the containers help to define those living spaces and contribute to an overall harmonious design.

Not all plants are suitable for growing in containers. Nor are all containers suitable for any exposure. Given the particular microclimates in your landscape, it is most effective to start with a complete design theme when choosing plants – a tropical patio oasis, a sculptural desert garden, or even a wildlife garden complete with a “potted” water feature. And for the plant collector, containers are a great way to show off individual specimens while emphasizing the entire grouping. Whether it is *mammillaria*, *euphorbias*, or *cycads*, these distinctive plants do very well in containers.



In this Container Garden, there are two microclimates, a shaded porch with skylights for

natural daylight, and a seat wall in full sun. For this reason, we have selected species appropriate for each climate.

Choosing appropriate containers is as important as selecting the plants that will go in them. Look for pots of a size to accommodate the plant with room to grow. Porous materials (terra cotta) allow for better air circulation and do not heat up as easily. However, they will disintegrate rather quickly (unless you are getting the high-fired variety that is denser) and plants in them require more frequent watering. Glazed ceramics are more durable, more expensive, and do not provide the evaporative cooling effects of terra cotta. And, glazed pots offer an additional element of color to take into account when planning your garden design.

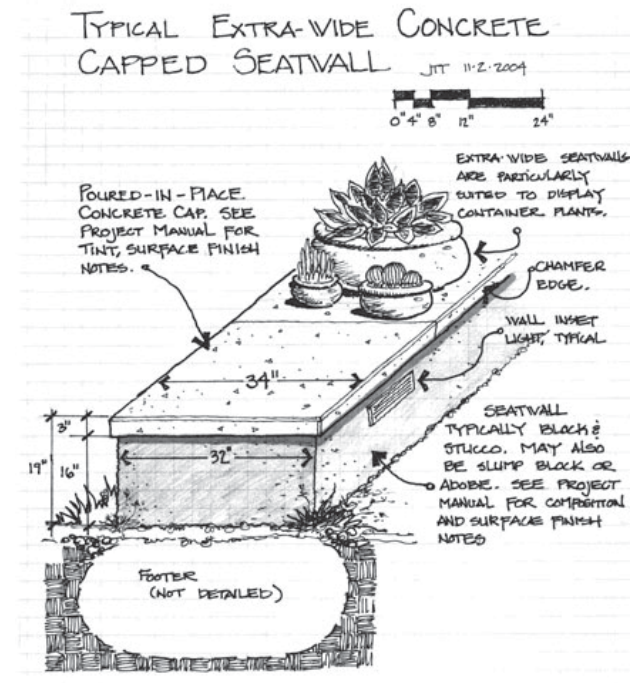
Potting soil appropriate to the plants you are choosing is also important. Cacti for example should not be placed in a water retaining mix that contains organic materials such as peat moss. There are well-draining mixes commercially available for cacti or you can make your own using the following formula ½ sand and ½ compost.

Storage of hand tools, containers, soil, and fertilizers for a container garden can be made simple with the addition of a cabinet that does double duty as a potting bench.

Hardscape

- Stuccoed CMU (concrete masonry units) seat wall with poured, tinted concrete cap (*San Diego Buff*)
- Assorted glazed ceramic and terra cotta planting containers (Pottery Blowout and Paradise Distributing)
- Wall color: *Candle* (Dunn Edwards)

- Wall inset lighting (FX Lighting, Ewing Irrigation)
- Galvanized steel tank (Eagle Milling)



Container Garden Plant List

Map Location	Botanical Name	Common Name(s)	Typical Height x Width	Landscape Use	Secondary Use	Lowest Water Use	Medium Water Use	Highest Water Use	TCP Greenhouse
4	Agave colorata	Colorado agave	3 x 3	SU	A	L			✓
9	Ageratum corymbosum	Desert ageratum	1 x 1.5	GC	P		M	H	✓
11	Aloe variegata	Partridge aloe	0.75 x 1	SU	GC		M		✓
17	Anisacanthus 'Mexican flame'	Mexican flame anisacanthus	4 x 6	P	SH		M	H	✓
28	Asclepias linaria	Pineleaf milkweed	2 x 3	SH		L	M		✓
37	Bouteloua gracilis	Blue grama	1 x 1	G	GT		M	H	✓
45	Buddelia marrubifolia	Wooly butterfly bush	5 x 5	SH		L	M		✓
46	Caesalpinea mexicana	Mexican yellow bird of paradise	12 x 10	SH			M	H	✓
48	Calliandra californica	Baja fairy duster	6 x 4	SH		L	M		✓
60	Chrysactinea mexicana	Damianita	2 x 2	SH		L	M		✓
63	Cissus trifoliata	Grape treebine	10 x 10	V			M	H	✓
76	Dasyliion wheeleri	Desert spoon	5 x 6	SU	A	L	M		✓
79	Echinocereus triglochidiatus	Strawberry hedgehog cactus	1 x 2	C	A	L			✓
80	Ericamaria laricifolia	Turpentine bush	2.5 x 4	SH		L	M		✓
84	Erythrina bidwillii	Coral bean hybrid	6 x 6	SH	A		M	H	✓
86	Euphorbia antisiphilitica	Candelilla	2 x 5	SU	A	L			✓
114	Justicia candicans	Mexican honeysuckle	4 x 4	SH			M	H	✓
117	Lonicera sempervirens	Coral honeysuckle	20 x 20	V	GC			H	✓
123	Melochia tomentosa	Pyramid bush	5 x 5	SH			M	H	✓
129	Muhlenbergia rigens	Deergrass	3 x 5	G	A		M	H	✓
137	Pedilanthus macrocarpa	Candelilla	3 x 3	SU	A	L			✓
139	Penstemon eatonii	Firecracker penstemon	1.5 x 3	P	WF		M		✓
147	Pithecellobium mexicanum	Mexican ebony	30 x 20	T		L	M		✓
158	Rhus trilobata	Lemonadeberry, Skunkbush	5 x 5	SH			M	H	✓
168	Ruellia brittoniana 'Katie'	Dwarf purple ruellia	1 x 2	P	GC		M	H	✓
169	Ruellia peninsularis	Baja petunia bush	4 x 5	SH		L	M		✓
175	Salvia clevelandii	Chapparal sage	4 x 5	SH		L	M		✓
178	Salvia greggii 'Hot lips'	Hot lips autumn sage	3 x 3	SH			M	H	✓
190	Senna covesii	Desert senna, Cove's cassia	2 x 3	P	SH	L			✓
193	Simmondsia chinensis	Joboba	6 x 10	SH		L	M		✓
207	Vaquelinea californica	Arizona rosewood	20 x 12	SH	GT	L	M	H	✓

Key

- A - accent
- B - bulb
- C - cactus
- CN - container
- F - fern
- G - grass
- GC - groundcover
- GT - grass/turf
- P - perennial
- PA - palm
- SU - succulent
- SH - shrub
- T - tree
- V - vine
- WF - wildflower
- ✓ - generally available in Tohono Chul Park Greenhouse

