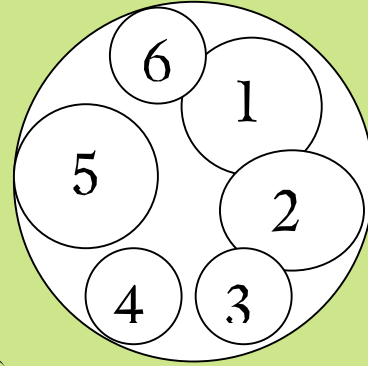


Recipe Card for the  
Container Design of the Month  
Designed by Laura Altvater at Portland Nursery

December

Design of the Month



### Nature's Holiday

1. Carex o. 'Everest'
2. Cyclamen 'Mini Scarlet'
3. *Vinca minor* 'Moonlit'
4. Gaultheria procumbens
5. Adiantum venustum
6. Red twig dogwood

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### Steps:

1. Fill your container 2/3 of the way with all-purpose Potting Soil.
2. Mix some fertilizer into the soil in the container.  
We have always had exceptional results with *E.B. Stone Sure Start* and *Osmocote*.
3. Moistening the soil so that it is damp is an important step if your potting soil is old or on the dry side.  
Most fresh bags of soil should take up water evenly when you water the plants.
4. Plant your container.  
It helps to gently loosen the root of each plant to enhance root development.
5. Fill the nooks and crannies with moist potting soil.
6. Water your newly planted container thoroughly and enjoy!

### Substitutions:

Sometimes you cannot find the exact cultivated variety we have listed above. Luckily there are substitutions that will offer a similar or even preferred look. There are many types of grasses and ferns that are evergreen such as Carex 'Ice Dance' and Korean Rock Fern. Red primroses or pansies would be a great substitute for the cyclamen and can handle harsher weather.

### Care and Maintenance:

The plants in this container will thrive with on a bright covered porch or patio. Water when slightly dry, being careful not to over water. Top dress and gently scratch into the surface some granular all-purpose fertilizer 3 months after planting. The cyclamen can be replaced in early summer with new shade loving summer annuals.