

Five easy steps to creating your own water garden container

- 1** Choose your favorite pottery or dish. The pottery should have no drainage holes and be formed from non-porous material.
- 2** The sky is the limit on creating this piece of art. It can have a small bubbling fountain in the center or be bubbling over with blooming marginal plants.
- 3** When choosing plant material for the container, choose tall, medium and cascading plants of varying colors and textures. For example, combine Black Taro, Variegated Sweet flag, Water Hyacinth, and Alexander Loosestrife for a balanced container water garden. Many plants make a grand statement standing alone in a water garden container. Consider filling a container with the continuous blooming water hyacinths. As summer passes on, these fast growing floating plants will spill over the edges of the container all the while sending purple spiking blooms throughout.
- 4** If adding a fountain, choose a small pump (between 65 and 210 g.p.h.) and small bell fountainhead. Many times these can be purchased as a kit. To reach the desired height, prop the pump on a brick, making sure fountain spray remains within the confines of the pot. Many plants will not tolerate the splashing water, so choose your water plants carefully if including them in the feature.
- 5** When choosing the perfect place on the patio for your water feature, consider the needs of the plants used. Full sun is best for most water plants. Keep in mind that both algae and mosquito growth must be controlled.