



# FACEBOOK LIVE SEMINAR

## Custom Combos for Mom

For something truly unique, celebrate Mom by creating a custom container. Adding those personalized touches are what turns this living gift into a labor of love. Mike Westphal, the Garden Guru, takes us through the steps, care tips, and stylistic finishes that will make Mom's smile as big as her heart.

### Step 1 – Choosing your Container

When choosing a container for your combo, consider things that your mom likes. For example, if your mom has a beach-themed home, you might want to pick a beach-themed container. You can use a plastic pot as an insert for ease in changing the combo often, or plant directly into the desired pot. Here are some of Mike, the Garden Gurus recommendations for your Mother's Day combo pot:

- Decorative Plastic
- Glazed Ceramic
- Terracotta
- Hanging Baskets

For more information on containers, see the Garden Guru's seminar on How to Contain your Garden [here](#).

### Step 2 – Containers that Drain

It is important to make sure the container you choose drains water efficiently. This is so your pots don't damage the plants by holding onto too much water. This will eventually affect the plants potted by rotting. This is a good rule of thumb for all container planting.

### Step 3 – Potting Soil

When planting any combo, for moms or others, it is essential to get a good potting soil. We want to make sure that we use a potting soil specifically, as all other soils are not designed for container growing. Additionally, a rich potting soil gives nutrients to the plants potted in the soil.

### Step 4 – Picking the Plants

Picking out your plants is the best part of container combos! After you find plants that you like, pair well together, and have the same requirements, then you can decide how you want to arrange them.

Keep in mind whether your container is going to be in the sun or shade, as that will determine the plants you choose. If you need help picking compatible plants, ask one of our Green Team members for expert advice.

*continued on next page*

---

#### CORPORATE

1139 W Pembroke Ave.  
757.722.3125

#### INDEPENDENCE

1144 Independence Blvd.  
757.464.5564

#### GREAT NECK

1276 N Great Neck Rd.  
757.962.7596





# FACEBOOK LIVE SEMINAR

## Custom Combos for Mom

### THRILLER, FILLER, SPILLER

If you are trying to find plants that go together well, one of the best ways to make a balanced container is our “Thriller, Filler, Spiller” method.

- **Spiller** – Trails over the side of your container.
- **Filler** – Fills up the container just above the rim of the pot.
- **Thriller** – usually adds some height and can provide pizzazz to your container combination.

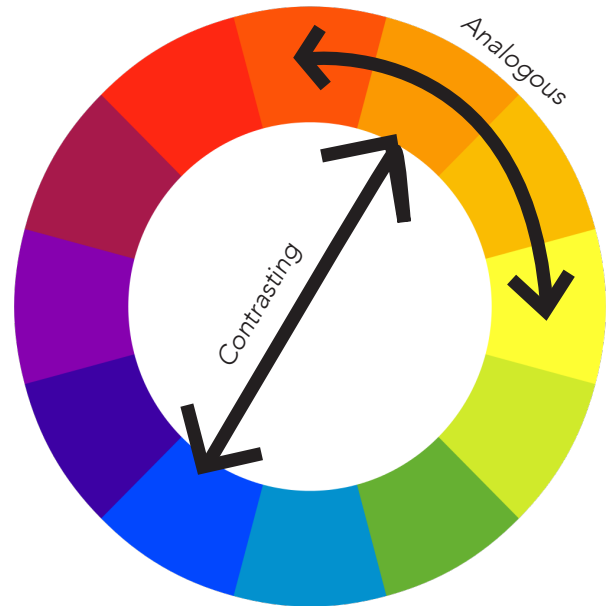
### ADDITIONAL TIPS

Look for some of the smaller colors in plants to try and pull out throughout your container. Instead of looking at the larger petal, look closer for the details in the blooms. For example, look for the yellow eye of a million bell, or the different shade of pink in a mandevilla, or even the different colors in certain leaves like coleus.

Use contrasting colors that are across each other from the color wheel to give more of a pop, or analogous colors which are next to each other on the color wheel for a more cohesive look.

Examples:

- **Contrasting** – blue/orange, purple/yellow, red/green.
- **Analogous** – red/orange/yellow or green/blue/purple.



Color Wheel

Use bright colors in shade like white and lime green for a beautiful pop in color.

Think outside the box and try new things. Use annuals, but don't forget that there are some great perennials and houseplants that work well for container combos too.

---

**CORPORATE**  
1139 W Pembroke Ave. 757.722.3125

**INDEPENDENCE**  
1144 Independence Blvd. 757.464.5564

**GREAT NECK**  
1276 N Great Neck Rd. 757.962.7596

