



Left: purple petunias; tall thin Cordyline (dracaena); white, pink & red geraniums and yellow African daisies. Center: "Thriller" can be glass. Right: Sometimes all you need is a 'thriller'

THRILLER, FILLER, AND SPILLER

By Linda Gay

Creating colorful container combinations can be fun, therapeutic, and beautiful. The recipe for a successful combination involves using a Thriller, Filler, and Spiller and this is fun to say!

First is the Thriller and is the WOW plant in the container, it is what your eye sees first. It can be architectural OR have exotic colorful foliage OR be a continuous bloomer and is the tallest plant in the combination.

Second comes the Filler and does just that and fills up the container and grows 6 -12" tall. This is a colorful spreading plant that acts as a base plant for the Thriller.

Third is the Spiller and this plant prefers to grow outside and down the container, spilling out of the pot. This can be an ivy or a cascading flower that softens the hard lines of the container.

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When creating combinations make sure plants chosen have like requirements such as light, soil and water.



Left: yellow "string-like" carex, pale green linear-leafed hosta, red-/orange-leaved heuchera, yellow-flowered cimicifuga. Center: geraniums and petunias. Right: this container could be your "thriller."

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