



## Virginia Green Industry Council

### Create Your Own Hanging Basket

For Immediate Use

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Electronic Version:

[www.viriniagreen.org](http://www.viriniagreen.org)

Bedding Plants are taking off—off the ground and into window boxes, containers, strawberry jars, barrels, wall fixtures and hanging baskets. Of all the decorative uses for bedding plants, hanging baskets are perhaps the most attractive and versatile, according to Lin Diacont, President of the Virginia Green Industry Council.

Hang a basket of frilly white petunias at eye level to provide a cool sparkle when you sit on your patio in the summer. Use matching baskets of ivy geraniums or symmetrical mounds of impatiens between the columns of your front porch. Shady areas beneath trees, in breezeways or under the eaves can be enhanced by hanging baskets of serene browallia and sweet alyssum. Or try splashes of vivid color with coleus or impatiens.

Light conditions, your color selections and plant preferences will dictate which plants you choose. Recent hybrids of coleus, impatiens and fibrous begonias have been developed specifically for hanging baskets. Or you might select vining forms of verbena, nasturtium, lobelia, morning glory, lantana or thunbergia, the charming black-eyed Susan vine.

Garden centers typically are well stocked with a variety of hanging baskets, but if you don't find what you want, it's easy to make one yourself. Just buy your favorite plants, a hanging pot and some potting soil.

One of the newest looks in hanging baskets is the combining several different types of plants in one basket. Blend together white sweet alyssum with red begonias. Or try mixing ivy geraniums with ivy or vinca. Make a herb basket of chives, parsley and thyme; or use curly parsley with vivid dwarf marigolds. Consider purple basil, nasturtiums, and calendula. Mix and match whatever pleases you and fits into your color scheme. The result – something grand and glorious, uniquely your own.

Go to our consumer website for additional gardening information at [www.VirginiaGardening.com](http://www.VirginiaGardening.com)

The Virginia Green Industry Council is the voice of the horticulture industry in the Commonwealth and is dedicated to enhancing the beauty of the state's environment, the well-being of our citizens, improving our state's economy, and improving the health and wellness for everyone in Virginia. The Council is made up of providers and consumers of horticultural products and services. The Council works to provide public and industry education, environmental guidelines and other information that will keep Virginia green and growing. For more information, visit [www.viriniagreen.org](http://www.viriniagreen.org). 540-382-0943 FAX: 540-382-2716

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