



The Association of
**Professional
Landscapers**



Foundation Skills:

Horticulture Pre-competition Activity

Prepare a Seasonal planter.

This task will test participant's knowledge and skills in the following areas:

Health and safety,

Horticulture,

Garden design,

Creativity,

Planting skills

Time Management

Participants should be given 1hr to prepare and present a seasonal planter.

The task will require each participant to:
Come up with their own theme for their planter.
Demonstrate horticultural health & safety while
constructing the planter.

Construct the planter according to their theme / design

Water Planter

Clear away equipment and clean down work area ready for
the presentation.

Discuss your planter with your teacher or care worker,
explaining your selections/choices of planting and plants.

Discuss after-care of the planter, explaining what you would
have to do to extend the life and vigour of the planter.



Example of an Spring
28cm Bell Planter
arrangement Containing
Skimmia, Primrose,
Cyclamen
Narcissus Tete et Tete
and Bellis.



For this task you will need.

A container.

Any container will do, but we are assuming a 28cm plastic container for this example.

Compost.

Approx 10lt of peat free or peat reduced compost

Plants.

Depending on the season, you can use various sizes. If a spring planter it tends to be 9cm pots, 12cm pots and 6 pack bedding. A typical 28cm pot to give an instant finish would usually hold. 1 x 12cm Pot, 3 x 9cm pots and 1 6 pack of bedding. But this is just a guide.

Water and a watering can.

Gloves & Dust Pan and Brush.

A great imagination.

How To Plant Your Container.

Some Tips.



Place peat free or peat reduced compost
in your container

Fill to a level where the rootballs of your plants will sit
within the container

(ideally about 5cm below the rim)

then lightly firm it down.

DO NOT OVER COMPACT THE COMPOST

How To Plant Your Container.

Some Tips cont....



Carefully remove plants from their pots or packs and position them where you would like them to go.

Consider where the container is going to be positioned.

For pots against a wall, fence or doorstep you will typically want taller plants at the back.

Free-standing containers viewed from all sides you might have taller plants in the centre.

If you are planting a container for immediate effect, then bear in mind plants to have a front and a back. Position them with their best faces forward.

Try to make the container look full, without cramming things in.

How To Plant Your Container.

Some Tips cont



Fill any gaps around your plants with peat-free or peat reduced compost around the plants, gently firming it down to fill any spaces.

The 5cm gap between the top of the compost and the top of the container will prevent compost spilling out when watering.

How To Plant Your Container.

Some Tips cont



Water slowly and thoroughly to soak the compost. Use a rose on the end of a watering can to avoid disturbing the compost.

If any of the leaves or flowers got compost on them during planting, wash it off with a gentle spray of water.



Good Luck!



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