

# HOW TO . . . .



## **make & maintain Winter HANGING BASKETS**



### **PLANTS SUITABLE FOR . . .**

**Top Planting** Universal winter flowering Pansies, Ivies (to trail up chains), Heathers (Callunas & Ericas), Evergreen Azaleas, Dwarf Conifers, Polyanthus, Primroses, Euonymus, Tolmieas, Cineraria Maritima.

**Side Planting** Universal winter flowering Pansies, Aubrieta (red, lilac & purple cascade), Arabis (Snowdrop & Spring Charm), Primula Wanda, Polyanthus, Primrose, Alpines, Cineraria Maritima.

**SUITABLE BULBS** Rockery Narcissi, Grape Hyacinth, Dwarf Tulip, Snowdrop, Dwarf Iris, Crocus.

**Place the basket on top of a bucket or large plant pot to hold it steady whilst planting, or hang the basket from a hook or wall bracket. We recommend a specialised hanging basket compost. Alternatively, any multi-purpose potting compost can be used, e.g. 'Westland'.**

## **How to go about it . . .**

### **A F T E R C A R E**

*Soak the compost in the basket immediately after planting by using a watering can fitted with a fine rose. Greenhouse grown plants may need to be hardened off before being placed outside permanently. Put them in a cool greenhouse for 1 week or place them outside during the day for a few days bringing them in at night.*

### **W A T E R I N G**

*Winter baskets do not need watering as much as summer baskets, however, you will need to keep an eye on them in windy weather, as these weather conditions tend to dry out baskets quickly.*

**Never Allow The Hanging Basket To Dry Out**  
*Should your basket dry out, it can be plunged into a tank of water for ten minutes or so, then pulled out and allowed to drain before being put back into position.*

### **AFTERCARE PRODUCTS**

**COMPOST** –Hanging basket compost, Peat based, multi-purpose compost.

**FEEDING** - Miracle Gro, Tomorite, Phostrogen, Osmocote tablets.

**WATERING** - Erin pump can, Hi-Lo Pulley (to make watering easier).



- 1) Line the basket with a 1 inch layer of damp sphagnum moss.
- 2) Add a layer of damp compost.
- 3) Insert plants by pushing the rootball through the basket from the outside and firm the compost around them.
- 4) Add another layer of moss around the inside of the basket to keep the plants and compost in place.
- 5) Add more compost to cover the rootballs of plants (approx. to level of the moss).
- 6) Add more plants (as in No. 3).
- 7) Continue this process until you have reached the top of the basket.
- 8) Once at the top, add a further layer of moss around the inside of the basket to form a wall. This will help to retain more water and prevent compost spilling out when the basket is being watered.
- 9) Plant the top of the basket with more established plants and bulbs for spring colour.