Container Garden Considerations

- Sun Exposure
- Container Selection
- Soil Blend
- Plant Selection
- Water
First things first, What is the orientation of your space?

- East – An ideal exposure as you will always get the morning sun
- South – Plenty of "winter" sun, adjust water as sun moves
- West – Sun at the hottest part of the day, soil blend and watering are crucial
- North – Summer sun all day and shade in the winter months…good luck!
Container Selection

Material Composition
- Terra Cotta – Porous material, but limited style and color selection
- Concrete – High end custom options available, can be dyed or painted
- Ceramic – Endless style and color selection, but can retain heat and moisture
- Fiberglass/Clay Fiber – Lightweight, Lots of style and color options, Not proven to hold up in the heat

Size
- Large – Soil Blend is crucial as drainage can become an issue
- Small – Dry out quickly
Soil

- **Drainage**
  
  drain·age

  /ˈdrānij/

  noun

  the action or process of draining something.

  "the pot must have holes in the base for good drainage"

- **Potting Soil, Cactus Mix and other amendments**
  
  - Perlite
  
  - Pumice
  
  - Coco coir

- **Fertilizer**
  
  - Dr. Earth Products
  
  - Once a month from March - October
Soil Blends & Amendments

Potting Soil

Cactus Mix

Perlite

Pumice
Plant Selection

- **Edible**
  - Mediterranean Herbs - Basil, Oregano, Rosemary, Sage, Thyme
  - Dwarf Citrus & Fruit Varieties - Bonanza Peach, Mexican Lime

- **Flowering**
  - Annual or Perennial?
  - Native or Desert Adapted?

- **Succulents** - All cacti are succulents, but not all succulents are cacti
  - Haworthia & Gasteria Varieties
  - Aloe varieties
  - Mammillaria varieties

- **Heavy Shade**
  - Sansevieria varieties
Water

- **Drainage**
- Drainage
- Drainage
- Drainage

- **Timing**
- Early Morning is ideal as it allows for evaporation to occur
- Avoid nighttime watering

- **Frequency**
- No perfect answer, but it will change throughout the year