



*Gardeners Helping Gardeners Succeed*

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# Create your own Hanging Baskets

Soak the moss for several hours or overnight.

**Construct the top rim caps:** This rim serves to hold in soil and water around the top edge of the basket. Using a small fist full of moss, squeeze out most of the water to form a tight ball. Push it through the top wires of the wire basket against the closest vertical support. Add another ball of moss, pushing it tightly against the first ball and continue in this manner around the top of the entire rim. The idea is to allow the top and second wires to hold the moss in place. When the moss starts to spring back to fullness, it will naturally cover the wires.

**Form the moss lining:** Push the presoaked moss through the inside to form a one-inch thick layer starting at the base and lining the entire basket. Make sure there are no holes in the moss, especially under the rim.

**Begin with bottom tier:** Poke planting holes in the moss with fingers or shears. We recommend using pony or jumbo pack sizes so that the root ball will be smaller and easier to work with. Using a small amount wrap the root ball in moss; insert the plant from the outside, gently pulling from the inside. Once the plant is in place, use a pencil or tweezers to pull the moss back into the place around the neck or base of the plant.

**Adding potting soil:** Once a tier is planted, add enough potting soil to cover the roots. Push down lightly on the soil.

**Plant remaining tiers:** Continue these steps, working your way towards the rim remembering to add soil as you finish each tier.

**Plant the top of the basket:** This is where you can easily use a 4inch, 6inch, 8inch or 1gallon size plant. Add potting soil after placing top plants, making sure level is about 2inches below the top rim.

**Water the basket:** Water thoroughly and then hang your basket for a day or two in an area where there is bright, filtered light. Hang the basket in a permanent location suitable for the types of plants you have used (sun or shade). The frequency of watering will depend on the weather, the location and the type of plants.

## General instructions

Don't allow the plants in the basket to dry out (wilt) between waterings. When you water, use low pressure or set up drip irrigation to your basket. Make sure the basket is thoroughly saturated, applying water 3-5 times, pausing between each application to allow water to drain through the basket.

**Fertilizer:** A general rule is once plants are established (after 2 weeks) you may begin to feed the plants every 2 weeks with a good all-purpose fertilizer.

**Grooming:** Always remove spent flowers and dead leaves to promote more flowering. Pinch leaf tips to create fullness. Keep soil clean of flower and leaf debris to discourage disease or onset of insect infestation.

