



Pick Your Perfect Pot

A simple guide to container materials and their trade-offs.

CONTAINER TYPE	WHERE IT CAN BE USEFUL	WHAT TO WATCH
Unglazed terra cotta or clay	Herbs that benefit from drying between waterings	Dries quickly, gets heavy, and can crack in freezing weather.
Plastic	Vegetables and herbs needing steadier moisture; pots you need to move	Check drainage and avoid exposing dark pot walls to harsh sun.
Glazed ceramic	Decorative herb or vegetable pots with proper drainage	Holds moisture longer than unglazed clay and can be very heavy.
Fabric grow bag	Seasonal vegetables where you want a roomy, portable container	Porous sides can increase drying; a filled bag is still heavy.
Wood or half barrel	Larger vegetables or a thoughtfully spaced mixed planting	Needs drainage and suitable wood; won't last forever.
Metal	A sturdy planter in a location where root-zone heat is managed	Can heat in direct sun; a decorative bucket may lack drainage.
Concrete or stone	A permanent, stable growing spot	Very heavy; choose the location before filling it.
Resin or fiberglass	Larger planters that are lighter than stone or ceramic	Construction varies; check drainage, thickness, and usable capacity.

A little reminder: Think about moisture, weight, drainage, and how well the container suits the spot where you'll put it.