dragonfly
ContainerScapes

If you don't have space for a vegetable garden or if your outdoor space doesn't provide the necessary elements to produce the flower garden you've always wanted, consider the possibility of "container gardening." A patio, deck, balcony, or doorstep can provide enough space for a productive, attractive display.

If you live in an apartment with limited outdoor space, you might consider doing a little indoor gardening. By using sunny window sills, you can grow a number of herbs.

Benefits
Many individuals find container gardening to be advantageous. Each person is unique and has his or her own particular circumstances. They may be:

- disabled with a need for easy accessibility
- homeowners with little or no land
- apartment/condominium dwellers
- plant lovers who just can't get enough of nature
- gardeners with problem soil
- elderly with limited mobility
- cooks -- gourmet and otherwise

Convenience
While space (or lack of it) is an obvious reason to try container gardening, that is not the only reason people choose this method. Often, convenience plays a big part, especially for vegetables and herbs. Having these essentially at your fingertips is a tremendous advantage. The mobility of container gardening makes it easy to rearrange and resculpture your garden and to add new elements of interest and beauty.

For busy two-worker families who don't have time to produce a large garden, a number of well-placed pots on the deck often can do the trick. For the elderly who can't garden anymore, sometimes a simple tomato plant conveniently located by the back door may be enough to satisfy the craving for fresh vegetables and to recall memories of days past.

Time
Families today are busier than ever and gardening is time consuming. Container gardening reduces the amount of time you spend tending plants. Whether you plant ornamentals or edibles, care is minimal. Time-release fertilizer and automatic watering systems can reduce that time even more.

Just as a garden can be a work of art, our well-planned container gardens can be attractive as well as useful. Carefully selected plants result in a beautiful, yet functional, display.

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