

SIMPLY GRACIOUS LIVING

Decorating Style & Plant Pairing

A quick reference for choosing greenery and vessels that complement the feeling of your home.

Plants add life, softness, texture, and movement to a room. The key is choosing greenery - and a vessel - that supports your decorating style rather than competing with it. Use this reference as a starting point, then choose what feels natural in your own home.

Style & Plant Pairing Quick Reference

Decorating Style	Best Plant / Greenery	Ideal Vessel	Avoid
Traditional	Ficus, olive tree, fern, magnolia stems	Classic urn, ceramic planter, blue-and-white vessel, aged brass or stone-look pot	Very industrial containers or overly sparse sculptural plants
French Country	Olive tree, lavender, fern, rosemary, soft floral stems	Aged ceramic, weathered urn, woven basket, antique-inspired cachepot	High-gloss modern planters or tropical-looking greenery
Transitional	Olive tree, ficus, eucalyptus, simple leafy stems	Clean ceramic pot, subtle textured planter, understated metal or stone-look vessel	Overly ornate containers or very rustic baskets
Modern / Contemporary	Fiddle-leaf fig, rubber plant, snake plant, sculptural branches	Simple matte ceramic, streamlined planter, concrete-look vessel	Fussy floral arrangements or highly decorative traditional urns
Coastal	Palm, fern, olive tree, airy eucalyptus	White ceramic, woven basket, pale blue or natural-texture vessel	Heavy dark containers or dense formal arrangements
Farmhouse	Olive tree, eucalyptus, fern, rosemary, simple wildflower stems	Galvanized metal, crock, woven basket, simple ceramic pot	Highly polished formal vessels or tropical statement plants
Bohemian	Monstera, pothos, palm, trailing plants, layered greenery	Woven basket, terracotta, handmade pottery, collected vessels	Overly matched containers or stiff formal arrangements
Rustic / Old World	Olive tree, ficus, rosemary, substantial leafy branches	Terracotta, aged urn, dark pottery, stone-look vessel	Delicate minimalist planters or very bright glossy finishes
Cottage / English-Inspired	Fern, ivy, flowering plants, garden-style stems	Classic pottery, aged ceramic, basket, small urn	Severe sculptural plants or stark modern planters

Keep Scale in Mind

Style matters, but scale matters just as much. A large tree can visually balance substantial furniture or fill an empty corner, while a small fern or a few stems may be all a tabletop needs. Let the size of the room, furniture, and surrounding accessories guide the size of the greenery.

Real or Faux?

Both can work beautifully. Choose real plants when the light and care requirements fit your lifestyle. When they do not, a well-made faux plant can provide the same softness and organic shape without the maintenance. For faux greenery, look for natural variation in leaf size, color, and direction rather than perfect repetition.

Simply Gracious Tip

The container is part of the design. If a plant feels out of place, the greenery may not be the problem. Try changing the vessel before changing the plant.

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