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# SIouxLAND HOMES MAGAZINE

 Siouxland Homes Magazine

Oct. 15, 2022

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## SEARCH FOR YOUR DREAM HOME INSIDE!





HANDOUT/TNS

While Dillon sometimes likes to pick a theme for a grouping, the most important part of a collection is to have variety. This means different sizes, shapes, mediums, and subjects are all welcome in a grouping.

## Creating the perfect GALLERY WALL

**KATIE LAUGHRIDGE**  
Tribune News Service

No room is complete without art on the walls. Artwork is the cherry on top, the frosting on the cake, the accessories to the perfect outfit – it is the finishing touch that pushes your space from beautiful to stunning.

A few weeks ago I posted a photo that featured a lovely gallery wall display curated and hung by our very own talented art (and chandelier, and really anything that requires hanging) specialist, Dillon. Dillon has been with the shop for 23 years and has his art arrangements down to a science—so precise it seems like magic. He has traveled from coast to coast on behalf of Nell Hill's, hanging art for customers from Palm Springs to Washington, D.C., and is always in high demand.

This is why, when I started receiving some questions on how to create the perfect

display, I knew I needed to corner him and get the inside tricks and tips that he has collected over the years to share with you all.

**Step One: Grouping your art.** When pulling pieces for a gallery wall there are many ways to mix and match. While Dillon sometimes likes to pick a theme for a grouping, the most important part of a collection is to have variety. This means different sizes, shapes, mediums, and subjects are all welcome in a grouping. Having a diverse collection of items makes for an interesting display that encourages the eye to explore. When Dillon is finished pulling art for a display, he sorts them into piles based on size and frame color which makes for an organized way to start creating your layout.

**Step Two: The Layout.** Once you pull the art with which you are working, it's time to lay out your vision.

Instead of going straight to the wall with hammer in hand, we recommend a floor layout first. When Dillon has the time (and space) he lays out his pieces on the ground in front of his chosen wall starting with the visually heaviest pieces.

The heaviest pieces are going to be the largest sized or those with dark, bold frames and colors. By beginning with these pieces, you can ensure that they are spread evenly throughout your display to create visual anchors that draw the eye from side to side. Grouping too many of the heavy pieces together can create an unbalanced and lopsided display. Add in medium sized pieces and fill in with the smallest among your grouping to complete your gallery.

While your display is on the ground and you have it looking just right, mark the middle of the display and take a picture on your phone.



HANDOUT/TNS

The easiest way to place an arrangement is to place the middle first and work around it.

This way, once you start moving things around you have something to reference for spacing and placement.

**Step Three: Spacing and Measurement.** First things first: Identify where you want the middle of your display to fall on the wall and mark it. The easiest way to place an arrangement is to place the middle first and work around it. Dillon then uses a Post-It note system where he writes the dimensions of the paintings on two Post-It notes and places

them at the top and bottom of where he wants the piece to be placed. That way he knows how large the art is and can see where it will fall on the wall.

The Post-It notes make for easy adjustments without marking up your walls (blue painter's tape works just as well if you want to create the entire frame). Once the middle is identified, Dillon places the visual anchors and larger pieces first to create the dimensions of his gallery wall and fills in the spaces with his

smaller and lighter options. Et voila! You have a show-stopping gallery wall of your very own!

While there are many other nuanced approaches to curating and hanging a gallery display, I hope that this simplified breakdown is helpful in getting beginners comfortable with the art of hanging art.

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DEAR MONTY

# Four options when the seller's agent refuses to present an offer

**RICHARD MONTGOMERY**  
Creators Syndicate Inc.

**D**ear Monty: We made an offer on a home through our agent that is \$400k overpriced at \$1.3 million. Our agent researched the comparable sold homes in the area. They recently listed the house. They rejected the offer. Sixty days later, we tried again, removed several contingencies, and left the price as before. Their agent responded, telling our agent he was not presenting our offer because the seller was disgusted with our original offer. The seller's agent is not returning our agent's calls. We have learned that the seller never lived in the home and rented it out. We don't want to give up because the house is the best we have seen. What can we do to rekindle the negotiation?

**Monty's Answer:** The best

way to rekindle the relationship is to raise your offer, maybe considerably higher, to get their attention at this point. You may have to pay more than the house is worth if it is the best house you have seen. That could be why they are attempting to get more. Here is a Dear Monty article that describes home sellers' different motivations, which may be helpful, <https://www.dearmonty.com/different>

Here are a few possibilities that may be occurring. Understanding them may help you devise a course of action.

—The agent may not be keeping up with the recent market changes. Changes in the real estate market are often slow to be noticed. Still, the market changes rapidly when interest rates rise from below 3% to over 6%.

—It is possible that the seller knows more about neighborhood values than the agents. I have seen many examples over the years where that has happened.

—The owner may have overpaid for the house or may have overspent on making improvements. If there is a large mortgage on the property, selling for less could mean the seller brings cash to the closing.

—Sometimes, a personal relationship with the seller will influence an agent's judgment. The agent erred in not communicating the offer. Sellers often change their minds.

—Either agent may have made a mistake in choosing comparable sales. Improper valuations are common in real estate because judging comparables

is subjective, and some agents are not very good at it. Most agents have minimal experience with appraisal requirements and appraisal theory.

**OPTIONS TO CONSIDER**

No. 1: Wait till after the first of the year. It may take more time for the seller to realize that the market is rejecting their offering. Their motive for selling will influence their decisions.

No. 2: Keep looking while you are waiting. A new property that you like even more may appear.

No. 3: Move on. You may be wasting your time and your energy.

No. 4: Contact the seller directly. The property tax bill is mailed to the owner and may be a public record. If available, send the seller and the agent a conciliatory note and the com-

parable sales you used to determine your valuation. Direct contact with an already agitated owner is risky and could further damage your chances of re-opening a dialogue.

Here is a Dear Monty article on value range pricing (VRP), <https://www.dearmonty.com/what-is-value-range-pricing/>. One of VRP's benefits is educating the seller on value. It may have prevented the seller's displeasure had the agent told him he was above the value range.

Richard Montgomery is the author of "House Money: An Insider's Secrets to Saving Thousands When You Buy or Sell a Home." He advocates industry reform and offers readers unbiased real estate advice. Follow him on Twitter at @dearmonty, or at DearMonty.com.

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PLUMBER

## Comfort options for a standard bath tub/shower

**ED DEL GRANDE**  
Tribune News Service

**Q**uestion: Dear Ed: We're doing a basic remodel to our bathroom. Part of the remodel will be to replace our existing tub with a standard acrylic tub/shower unit. Even though this will not be a fancy whirlpool, can we get comfort options in a standard tub?

— Tom, Ohio

**A**nswer: Today's acrylic alcove tub/shower units are stylish and can offer extra comfort features. I've seen some clever options available. Here are a few of my favorites.

Slotted overflow opening in place of a circular over-



KOHLER/TNS

Today's acrylic alcove tub/shower units are stylish and can offer extra comfort features.

**flow:** This option can give you two benefits. The thin slotted overflow opening allows for a higher water level for a deep-soak feeling, plus a lower step-over for easier tub entry.

**Lumbar support:** This allows you to lie down and relax against a comfortable sloped backrest.

Textured bath tub bot-

tom surfaces: Built-in textured bottom surfaces are comfortable and easy to keep clean.

**Bonus tip:** If you really want to go all out, I recommend adding a trendy sliding glass shower door to give your standard tub/shower unit a nice, clean look.

(Master Contractor/Plumber Ed Del Grande is known internationally as the author of the book "Ed Del Grande's House Call," the host of TV and Internet shows, and a LEED green associate. Visit [eddelgrande.com](http://eddelgrande.com) or write [eadelg@cs.com](mailto:eadelg@cs.com). Always consult local contractors and codes.)

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**WHISPERING CREEK, SC**



**NEW CONSTRUCTION**

**2655 Albatross • \$729,750**

2132 sq ft ranch w/ walk-out lower level. Main floor: 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, laundry and 3 stall heated garage. From your first step into this front entry and you are stunned by the wall of windows, hardwood floors, wooden beam tray ceiling and contemporary design elements and gorgeous built-ins alongside the electric fireplace. This open concept is both functional and luxury all in one. There is a covered concrete back right off the dining area which is fabulous for entertaining or enjoying that quiet cup of morning coffee. Primary suite features large walk-in closet & the luxurious bath has oh so vanity, tile walk-in shower and soaking tub. 10 year tax abatement.

**RIVER VALLEY, NSC, SD**



**211 So Canterbury • \$519,750**

3bed/2 bath/3 stall heated garage completion November 2022 New layout and new construction. Custom designed 1801 sq ft ranch w/ 3 bedrooms, 2 bath on main floor, located in River Valley, NSC, SD. Take advantage of SD tax structure. 1801 sq ft open concept design to enjoy and the concrete covered deck right off the kitchen. So much potential and main floor professional custom design choices already made. Master Suite features large closet & bath, w/ oh so vanity & tile walk-in shower. Luxurious vinyl tile floors, electric fireplace, island, solid surface counter, main floor laundry and walk-in pantry. Daylight windows in lower level for amazing lake finishes and Gekko Rhino windows on the main. Upgraded counter tops throughout the home, heated garage and electric fireplace.

**NEW "build-to-suit" lot listings:**

**2644 Albatross/Lot 25 Claret View - \$142,900**  
**2682 Albatross/Lot 27 Claret View - \$162,900**  
**17 Spanish Bay - Dakota Dunes - New Price - \$250,000**

**DAKOTA DUNES, SD**



**814 Crooked Tree Lane • \$690,000**

Welcome to the Willows at Dakota Dunes. Experience this Brand new floor plan! Story & 1/2 with main floor primary suite, laundry and luxurious open design with vaulted ceilings, wall of glass looking out onto back covered patio and gorgeous landscaped terraces. 3 bedrooms/2 1/2 bath two-tone white/ivory 2 stall garage w/ golf cart door. You will love the location and the layout. Willows HOA manages yard care, irrigation and snow removal. HOA fees to be determined.

**ELK CREEK, SC**



**4531 Whitetail Court • \$449,750**

Enjoy this beautiful 1578 sq ft ranch with 2 bedrooms both with walk-in closets, 2 baths and 3 stall heated garage. LL has daylight windows for future finish. Enter this lovely ranch home to open floor plan with custom kitchen with island, quartz tops, walk-in pantry, \$4,500 appliance allowance, dining, and great room connectivity. Consistent LVF flooring throughout the space for versatile and flexible living. Primary suite includes tray ceiling, plush carpets, custom walk-in closet, and 3/4 bath with walk-in tile shower and double vanity. Upgrades in this space: home 74" fireplace, heated garage, quartz tops in kitchen and baths, 65 gallon water heater, rock landscape beds. You will love the floor plan. HOA \$250 per month.

**If you aren't working with an agent, you are missing out.**

**Pamela J. Kavanaugh Edwards**  
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## DAKOTA DUNES, SD

**SOLD**



## 241 Augusta Circle

One owner 5 bedroom, 3,000 finished sq ft ranch on cul-de-sac, built by Tad Maxwell. .39 acre lot backing up to #2 tee box, mature trees, gorgeous lot, privacy and view. The 6x7 tile entry greets you and opens to great room w/ gas fireplace, 12 ft ceiling, and crown molding. The eat-in kitchen has 10' ceilings, granite tops, oak floors and birch cabinetry. Slider to 14x16 deck to enjoy that amazing view. 15x15 primary suite with vaulted ceiling, 5x11 walk-in closet and 10x9 full bath w/ jetted tub and double vanity.



## 895 Cottonwood Lane

Envision your thriving business in a brand new multi-unit strip center located just off of Exit 1 on Interstate 29 in Dakota Dunes. Cottonwood Square tenants will enjoy the organic visibility provided by the adjacent established hotel and event center, as well as the traffic from nearby businesses in both Dakota Dunes and North Sioux City. Flexible allowances for space improvements provided by landlord. Signage on both front and back of building for increased visibility. There is an end cap suite with a drive up window!

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**WWW.DUNESREALTYSIOUXLAND.COM**

## JAMES DULLEY

# Quiet acoustic tiles are easy to install

**JAMES DULLEY**  
Creators Syndicate Inc.

**Dear James:** It gets too noisy in the kids' playroom. Are acoustic ceiling tiles difficult to install myself, and are there attractive ones made for home use? — Michelle Y.

Dear Michelle: Most people like the sound-deadening characteristics of acoustic tiles, but then they think they must look like those big, ugly tiles in a school, supermarket, etc. Nothing could be further from the truth. Installing acoustic tiles in a relatively simple, medium-sized room is just a weekend project.

There are at least 50 various styles, textures and colors of residential acoustic ceiling tiles available. Although you are probably most familiar with the traditional white grid supports, they are also available in attractive woodgrain, black and brass.

I have installed many suspended tile ceilings, and it can easily be a one-person job. You should be able to do a typical room, start to finish, in about one day. The only particular skill it requires is good planning and attention to detail.

A suspended acoustic tile ceiling is an excellent choice for your playroom. First and most obvious, it reduces loud reverberating sounds and can help block sound transmission to adjacent rooms. You'll appreciate this at night.

Also, suspended ceilings

make it easy to run wiring to speakers, game controls to the television, etc. It even simplifies the installation of additional ceiling lighting if necessary. Light fixtures are specifically designed to fit the common grid patterns.

There are significant variations among different types and brands of acoustic ceiling tiles — sound-deadening, washability, color, styles, etc... Read the product packaging carefully. Some so-called acoustic ceiling tiles barely deaden noise at all.

Sound-deadening properties of acoustic tiles depend primarily on the density and weight of the tile and the surface characteristics. If you look closely, the surface of tiles with a noise reduction coefficient of about 50% is a mass of tiny holes.

Some tiles are washable, and others are not. Particularly if you have a fireplace in your family room, I recommend a washable tile. The salesperson at the ceiling tile outlet can help you with this.

Just a note about old tiles. The only method to renew the appearance of old non-washable tiles is to paint them. In order to maintain the acoustic properties, the tiny surface holes must not be clogged with paint. If you paint tiles, use two or three very light coats of spray paint.

Your next decision is to select the edge treatment of your tiles. Most acoustic tiles are available in three edge profiles: square, bev-

eled and notched. The beveled design provides a more contemporary appearance. The notched ones tend to hide the support grids somewhat.

If you are not interested in running wires above the ceiling or additional lighting, consider installing interlocking tiles that you either staple to furring strips or glue directly to the ceiling.

Before you glue them to the ceiling, make sure this is what you want because it is no easy task to remove them and restore the ceiling. With a suspended ceiling, you can change the tiles whenever you like. Vary the types and patterns of tiles for a unique decor.

When you install the grid pattern, pay attention to the manufacturer's recommendations for the clearance of the dropped ceiling from the old ceiling. Do not try to gain a little extra overall room height. If there is not enough clearance, you will not have room to get the tiles in place.

If your room is slightly out of square (and whose isn't?), snap a chalk line down the center of the room splitting the difference. This leaves a similar-sized tile border on each side of the room and makes the out-of-squareness less apparent.

Send your questions to Here's How, 6906 Royalgreen Dr., Cincinnati, Ohio, 45244, or visit [www.dulley.com](http://www.dulley.com).

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# Paint a room to be colorful or full of color?

**JOSEPH PUBILLONES**  
Creators Syndicate Inc.

So often during the summer months or during holidays, we take vacations to visit family or to faraway places to get a bit of respite from work, school or from life in general.

On any outing, you might visit a restaurant, a hotel lobby, museum or historic home that inspires you and gives you the desire to redecorate or to paint the walls of your home. Now the question is what color. And once you have decided on a color palette, the other dilemma is whether you want your home to be colorful or full of color. These are two distinct approaches on how to integrate color into your home.

One approach is to paint each room of your home a different color. This will give you rooms that are distinct in their flavor and that can each be decorated in their own style in accordance to the color palette chosen. This will result in a home full of color. The colors can either contrast or complement each other from room to room as the homeowners desire.

Some prefer an obvious transition from room to room including drastic color changes that some may consider shocking, like a yellow room next to a glowing fuchsia room next to an apple green room. It takes some confidence and real knowledge of colors and decorating to pull this off. Of course, the latter is an extreme example to demonstrate a point, but the same holds true for more subdued combinations — say, a pale sage room next to a rose pink room followed by a baby blue room. Whether you contrast or complement colors, the transitions from room to room allow each one to read as individual and unique in style. Historical homes and estates have used this bold color preference for centuries, mainly in formal rooms.

Another approach with regard to color is the sprinkling of colors in small bits. Regardless of whether your walls and backdrop are safe and tempered neutrals or more strident colors, you can always use this approach, as it relies on colors extrapolated from your works of art, accessories and other items such as your case goods or hard furnishings. This method of using color is most versatile, as it allows you to change the focused color over time.

This second approach is for those who may be hesitant to commit to a bold color but like color enough to weave it in through different rooms. For those who rent an apartment or home, this may be the best way to decorate with a favorite color without the permanence of the color being on the walls.

So, as you may see, there is a difference between a home full of color and a colorful home. Not everyone may like an orange room like I do, but there is always room for touches of the color here and there. Color is an exciting way to express your personality. Let yours shine through like the notes of a trombone or as light as the plucking of a violin's string.

Joseph Pubillones is the owner of Joseph Pubillones Interiors, an award-winning interior design firm based in Palm Beach, Florida. His website is [www.josephpubillones.com](http://www.josephpubillones.com).

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## AS ANGI

## Should I hire a handyperson or specialist?

**PAUL F. P. POGUE**  
Ask Angi

Everything from that squeaky door to the leaky faucet has been getting on your nerves, and you've decided it's time to take care of them all at once. Hiring a handyperson service is an excellent way to cross everything off this to-do list in a hurry.

However, even if you've got a reliable handyperson on speed-dial, you might not be sure if you should hire them or a licensed trade specialist for the work. How can you tell the difference?

First up, go ahead and ask your handyperson if they're capable of handling it. An honest pro should be able to give a clear answer. You can also research local regulations and find out

what needs a license. Many cities have their licensing requirements online or staff who will be happy to answer specific questions.

Licensing requirements vary significantly by state, but generally speaking, small jobs like fixing leaky faucets or replacing a light switch don't require a license. However, anything that gets into the guts of the pipes or wiring is likely to need a license.

Large jobs that involve multiple workers and/or significant investment, such as a remodel or addition, usually require a licensed general contractor to oversee.

Here are typical jobs you can usually hire a handyperson to take care of:

- Replacing small electrical components, such as thermo-

stats, light switches and outlets

- Repairing drywall
- Fixing leaks
- Hanging shelving
- Hanging doors
- Repairing woodwork
- Replacing window glass
- Wiring home theater components

Here are some examples of jobs that commonly require a licensed specialist:

- Adding a stairway
- Installing a new roof
- Installing a fireplace or wood stove
- Building a raised deck
- Installing or replacing certain plumbing fixtures such as water heaters
- Major remodeling
- Putting in new windows
- Building a retaining wall to block soil or erosion

- Any work requiring the repair or modification of the existing electrical, plumbing or gas systems

A few additional tips:

Some handy services do carry specialty licensing or have particular trades on staff, so don't hesitate to ask if they have a plumber or electrician available for licensed work!

Whether you hire a handy service or specialty contractor, make sure they carry liability insurance and acquire whatever permits are required for the job.

Most handy service companies charge by the hour, and often their jobs take much less time than that. To get the most out of your handyperson's time, prepare a list in advance of all the small jobs you'd like them to cover in one visit. The

person you hire to fix some dry-wall and mount a TV might also be able to repair a leak or hang a light fixture while they're already at your house. They'll get more done for you and will appreciate your respect for their time.

Make sure you know ahead of time who'll be responsible for supplying materials. If you have specific materials you'd like to be used for your project, you'll save time by purchasing them in advance and not have to be charged for the handyperson's time to pick them up.

Tweet your home care questions with #AskAngi and we'll try to answer them in a future column.

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DREAMSTIME/TNS

Some jobs, such as shelf installations, usually don't require a trade license to complete. Make sure you know your local regulations before hiring.

DESIGN RECIPES



A table lamp and bedding blending various citrus colors is paired with a bright lime area rug in this child inspired space.

HANDOUT/TNS

# MAKE A SPLASH WITH CITRUS COLORS

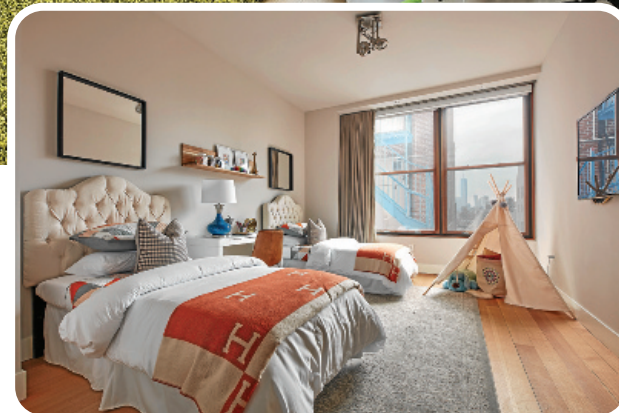
**CATHY HOBBS**  
Tribune News Service

There's lemon and lime as well as orange. So-called citrus colors can add warmth and energy to nearly any space. Often, they will help instantly brighten and lighten, and can even help to mimic sunshine in dark spaces. Not sure how to introduce citrus colors into your home? Here are some

top tips.

1. Use yellow and yellow-based tones in spaces that receive little to no light. These colors can help mimic sunshine.
2. Do mix citrus colors in the same space. Lemon and lime for example can be a fresh, clean color combination.
3. Pair citrus colors with colors with deep undertones

- such as black and charcoal to create an element of luxury.
4. Use citrus as accent colors such as pillows, throws and accessories.
  5. Consider using citrus colors in spaces where you want to create a sense of warmth and coziness.
  6. Use tints, tones and shades of citrus if looking to create a more monochromatic color scheme.



SCOTT GABRIEL MORRIS/HANDOUT/TNS

Orange throws placed at the foot of the bed add an unexpected pop of citrus to this children's space.

7. Use pops of citrus colors to add energy and interest to neutral spaces.
8. Bring citrus colors in unexpected ways such as artwork and textiles.
9. Blend citrus colors together in spaces where you want to create a sense of whimsy such as a children's bedroom or family-friendly space.

10. Don't be afraid to incorporate citrus colors in various parts of your home from kid spaces to living rooms.

(Cathy Hobbs, based in New York City, is an Emmy Award-winning television host and a nationally known interior design and home staging expert with offices in New York City, Boston and Washington, D.C. Contact her at [info@cathyhobbs.com](mailto:info@cathyhobbs.com) or visit her website at [cathyhobbs.com](http://cathyhobbs.com).)

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# Methods for saving plants over the winter

**JEFF RUGG**  
Creators Syndicate Inc.

**Q**uestion: My geraniums grew really well this summer and I have some pretty ones that I want to keep for next year. How do I go about doing this? I heard that they can be dug up and hung upside down for the winter.

**A**nsWER: There are several kinds of geraniums, including some that are perennials that survive without coming indoors, but I assume you mean the Zonal Geranium that has a slightly two-toned leaf and a big cluster of flowers on the end of a stalk. These plants grow in a dry and warm Mediterranean climate. They can't survive being frozen, but they can survive months of dry, cool weather without much water.

You can use any of the following methods to save geraniums and other potted plants for next spring. In their natural habitat, there is no one running around pulling them out of the ground and hanging them upside-down for the dormant season, but if you want to do that, you can. If they are planted in the ground, dig them up before they get a frost and shake the soil off the roots. Hang them in a dry location where the temperature will remain in the 40s or low 50s. It might be necessary to soak the roots for an hour or so once a month to prevent them from completely drying and dying. All the leaves will die, but the stem should remain plump and not shriveled up. Next March, repot them and cut off any dead stems. If the stems are too long, go ahead and cut them back in the spring.

If you have a sunny window or a greenhouse, geraniums can be left in the pot and grown all winter long as a houseplant. They do prefer more than 10 hours of daylight each day, and 12 is even better. In areas with short days during winter, you may need to supplement with grow lights to get them to bloom. Or you can just let them slow down their growth and go partially dormant for the winter. Be careful to not overwater them. They are succulents that don't need a lot of water.

If you don't have a place to grow the geranium as a houseplant, just bring it indoors and don't water it. Store it in the same location as you would the uprooted plants, in dry, cool conditions. Check on them occasionally and add a little water to the soil now and then to keep them barely alive. Next spring, cut the dead stuff off and begin watering and place them in a sunny window.

### GARDEN Hints and Tips

## Geranium

There are several ways to overwinter geraniums from your garden. Starting geraniums from cuttings is very easy and they propagate easily in water.

#### CUTTING

Start by cutting the top 4 to 6 inches off the stem. Remove any flowers and buds.

#### ROOTING

After a month or two roots should have started to form. Place the plants into individual pots.

#### BUDS

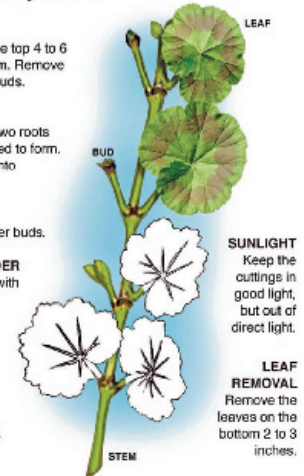
Remove any flower buds.

#### GROWTH POWDER

Dip the cut ends with rooting hormone powder or liquid.

#### PLANTING

Insert the cutting in a pot with sand or perlite. Add water.



**SUNLIGHT**  
Keep the cuttings in good light, but out of direct light.

**LEAF REMOVAL**  
Remove the leaves on the bottom 2 to 3 inches.

Creators.com Bob Kast

Another method involves more work but can get you more plants. Cut the top four to six inches off each branch. Discard any flower stalks, even if they are just buds. Take off all the leaves on the bottom two or three inches of the stem. Dip the cutting into rooting hormone powder or liquid, available from garden centers. Place the stem in sand or perlite and add water. A whole tray of them can be made from recycled plastic containers. Put them in a sunny window, but not in the sun, or under a fluorescent light.

It will take a month or two for them to begin rooting. Then they can be potted up, or you can wait until spring. Be sure to keep them watered. A little diluted fertilizer can be used after they are rooted. The bottom half of the plant that the cuttings came from can be saved as in the other methods, or it can be thrown out.

Some other potted plants from the garden can be saved in the same ways. The common dracaena spike plant that is used in the center of a pot can be saved using all the geranium methods. Large angel wing or dragon wing begonias, Boston fern, ivy, croton, dieffenbachia and other houseplants that were in containers during the summer can be used as houseplants during the winter.

Email questions to Jeff Rugg at [info@greenerview.com](mailto:info@greenerview.com).

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