



Have you thought of planting a small trough using dwarf alpines and truly miniature conifers?

This is a great way to enjoy these small plants and makes an attractive feature in a sunny part of your garden. It's also a very satisfying project and very creative! Follow the instructions overleaf to get the best results.

Choosing the best plants – see the list overleaf for the best behaved plants to give you a display throughout the whole year. Generally these alpines enjoy a sunny position but we can advise you on the best plants to use for a partially shaded position.

Shopping list

- trough with drainage hole
- coarse grit or gravel & pieces of crock
- John Innes No 1 Compost
- small stones (optional)
- miniature conifer or shrub
- dwarf alpine plants (6 or more)
- legs or bricks to raise trough (optional)

purple piglet project



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Little alpine or "rockery" plants tend themselves to being planted in unusual places where there is LITTLE SOIL, GOOD DRAINAGE & LIGHT.

TRoughs

USE A JOHN INNES COMPOST no 1 –
Soil based, not too much fertiliser –
You can mix in up to 25% of coarse sand or fine grit to give even better drainage



DRAINAGE HOLE It is essential to keep the trough well drained: cover hole with a few bits of old crock. Then a good layer of coarse gravel & add a fine layer of gravel to "steep out" soil being washed down

PLANTS TRoughs

① UPRIGHT PLANTS

conifers – eg. *Juniperus communis compressa*, *Chamae pumosa compressa*, *Picea little Gem*

Dwarf Ilex, *Cryptomeria j. vilmoriniana*,
Salix Boykinii, *Sorbus reducta*

② BUSTY PLANTS

Dianthus – dwarf alpine varieties,
Hypericum, *Armenia*

Hebe – dwarf varieties,
Aethionema harleyi, *Rose TRAILING*

Thymus vulgaris,
Cassiope,
Thymus serpyllum,
Dwarf Cistus

vetches,
vetches

③ CARPETING / ROSETTE FORMING PLANTS

campanula cochlearifolia & other dwarf varieties

sedum

saxifraga

Ranunculus

Erodium

Geranium

Androsace

Draba

Phlox subulata

Antennaria

Frankenia

* There are hundreds of different alpines to TRY – HAVE FUN EXPERIMENTING!

For a partially shaded position – trough can see the sky but doesn't get any sun – try these:
● *Campanula* ● *Oxalis* ● *Lychnis* ● *Veronica* ● *dwarf hostas*
● *Oregano* ● *Dwarf ferns* ● *Gaultheria*