

Information about Terracotta garden pots, planters, urns and troughs.

Traditional unglazed pots of fired clay (terracotta) have been valued for centuries for their beauty as plant containers – large terracotta planters and urns can be very handsome features in a garden, even when left unplanted. Clay is readily moulded into many sizes and shapes, and can be plain or have a moulded decoration. Small to medium terracotta plant pots are generally inexpensive, although costs do rise as the planters size increases.

The most expensive type of terracotta pots are frost resistant ones which will not flake or crack if exposed to low temperatures. [Riverhill Garden Supplies](#) stock a frost proof range of Terracotta pots, planters and troughs. They are part of the [Terracino collection](#). Terracino is made up from mainly clay, jute and other inert materials. If you tap a terracotta pot with your fingers it is more likely that a frost resistant planter will produce a dull low pitched sound instead of a higher pitched ‘ting’.



Above – The Camellia pot, Fresco trough planter and Florentine planter. Part of the Terracino range

The main component of [Terracotta](#) is clay which is a porous material, so a terracotta pot should be soaked in clean water before being filled with potting compost. Evaporation from planted clay pots helps keep plant roots cooler in summer than in non-porous and, while more frequent watering is necessary, there is less risk of water-logging. This makes clay ideal for alpiners and other plants that demand good drainage. The porosity also gives acceptable results with capillary watering systems. In most circumstances, the weight of terracotta pots filled with moist compost is an advantage because it produces stability.

Terracotta’s warm, earthy colour in shades of orange or red-brown can at first seem rather brash but, once weathered with algae, terracotta blends unobtrusively into many settings and compliments a wide range of plants. If necessary, algal growth can be scrubbed off between plantings, using warm soapy water and a stiff-bristled brush.



Above – Fresco cylinder pot, Fresco Tuscany Jar and Olive jar. Part of the Terracino range

For more information on our range of [terracotta pots, planters, troughs and containers](#) please call Riverhill Garden Supplies Ltd on 0845 5196447, or visit our website www.riverhillgardensupplies.com