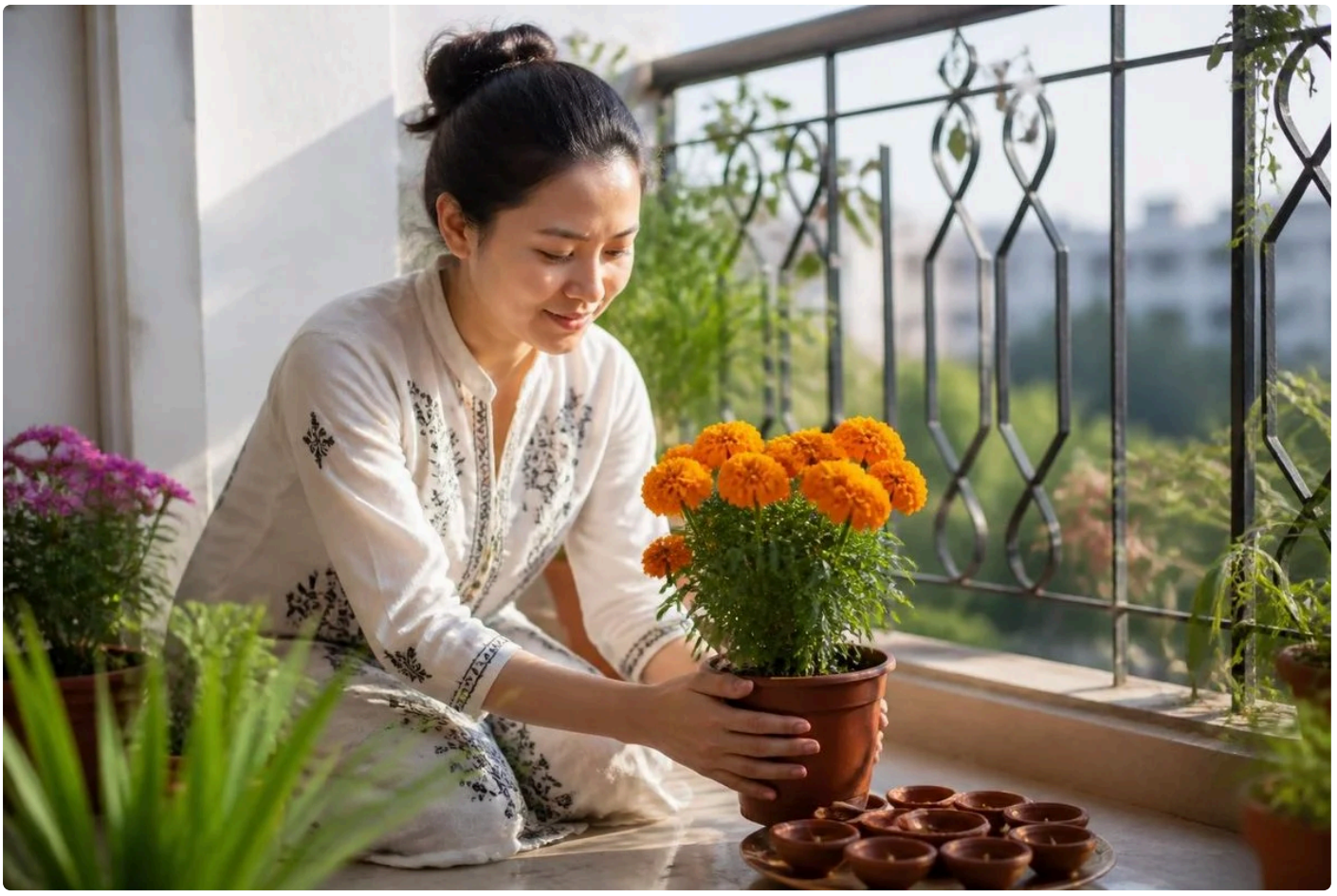

Potted marigolds, jasmine, chrysanthemums and orchids make thoughtful Diwali gifts, bringing color or fragrance into a home during the festival. The best choice is a healthy plant that suits the recipient's space and the amount of care they can comfortably give it.

Choose flowers for the occasion

Marigolds are a familiar sight in Diwali decorations, often used in garlands and around entrances. A pot of orange or yellow blooms can echo that festive color on a doorstep, balcony or sunny windowsill. Look for a compact plant with fresh leaves and several buds still to open.

Jasmine is a lovely choice for someone who enjoys scent as much as color. Its small flowers can perfume a balcony or a bright room, though fragrance and flowering habits vary by variety. Check the plant label so you can pass along its care needs.

Chrysanthemums offer another way to bring rich color to a Diwali gathering. A pot covered in small blooms looks cheerful beside a row of lamps or on a table set for guests. Choose one with some unopened buds as well as open flowers, so the recipient can enjoy the display for longer.

Think about the space it will live in

Before picking a plant, picture where it might go. A marigold is better suited to a sunny spot than a dim hallway. If the recipient has a bright balcony and likes tending pots, it can be a welcome addition among herbs or other flowers.

An orchid can work well for someone with a bright indoor space away from harsh direct sun. Its flowers can last for weeks, and the plant takes up little room on a table or shelf. Choose one with firm leaves and a few unopened buds, and ask for care instructions if they are not included.

For a household with pets or young children, check the safety of the particular plant before giving it. Common names can cover different plants, so the name on the label is useful when checking.

Make the gift easy to enjoy

A simple pot lets the flowers do the work. If you add a decorative outer pot or wrap, make sure excess water can still drain away. A saucer underneath helps protect a table or windowsill from drips.

Include a short note with the plant's name and the care advice from its label. A few words about light and watering are more useful than a long set of instructions, especially if the gift is opened in the middle of a busy celebration.

Give the plant enough space during the journey, keeping stems and blooms from being crushed. At home, place it away from lit lamps and candles. A flower that fits the recipient's home is a gift they can enjoy well after the festivities.

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