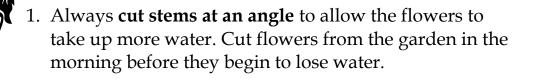
Tips for Great Floral Designers! - Notes by Lisa Whittlesey



- 2. Use **floral preservatives** in your water.
- a. Floral preservatives contain **sugar**, **biocide**, and an **acidifier**.
- b. Use commercial preservatives.
- c. Use warm, not hot water
- 3. Choose the **design style** based on the location, containers, and flowers you have available.
- 4. Use a variety of **textures** in each design to make it more appealing.
- 5. **Refrigerate** cut flowers and designs to lengthen the life of your flowers. This will minimize ethylene production and transpiration.
- 6. Do not store designs or flowers near fruit, vegetables, or evergreens. These produce **ethylene gas**, which will shorten the life of your flowers.
- 7. Practice good **sanitation**. Bacteria can block flower stems and keep the flower from taking up water. Always practice the following sanitation techniques:
 - a. **Wash** all flower buckets with bleach or bucket wash after each use.
 - b. **Remove** all foliage from the part of the stem that will be under water. This practice will prevent leaves from rotting and growing bacteria.
 - c. **Disinfect** the refrigerator floor and working areas regularly.
 - d. **Change the water** in flower buckets and arrangements on a regular basis to reduce bacteria. **Add floral preservatives** each time you change the water.
 - e. Throw out any dead or rotting plant materials.

Cut Flowers You Can Grow Yourself!

Zinnia Roses

Iris Snapdragons

Dianthus Salvia

Sunflowers Oxeye or Shasta daisies

Chrysanthemum Gladiolus

Larkspur Celosia or coxcomb Rudbeckia Purple cone flower

Trees and Shrubs that Make Good Greenery!

Pittosporum Eleagnus

Burford Holly Herbs – (Rosemary, basil, thyme)

Cedar Pine

Ferns (asparagus, queen, etc) Yaupon Holly

Wax Leaf Ligustrum English or pothos ivy

Dusty miller Liriope

Beautyberry

Lots of other tree branches – cypress, oak, elm, crepe myrtle (fall

foliage and berry pods)

For More Information About Growing and Caring for These and Other Plants See the Aggie-Horticulture Web-Site!

http://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu

For more about Floral Design courses and opportunities through the Benz School of Floral Design at Texas A&M University

https://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/benz-school/