



# ATime<sup>to</sup> Blossom

**T**he right floral arrangement can set the stage and create a mood for any event or gathering. Flowers enhance our lives and can make all kinds of celebrations, rituals, and festivities special. They create an impressive backdrop to our most significant rites of passage, events such as weddings, anniversaries, christenings, and funerals. Even an everyday meal is transformed into a celebration if served at a table adorned with flowers.

Nature changes from one season to the next, and each season brings a different mood and a different rhythm. Though many varieties are available year-round, the freshest of flowers are the key to beautiful arrangements, so use the season's bounty to your benefit. When flowers are scarce, turn to fruits, foliage, and vegetation. If you don't have a specific flower chosen, look to the flower for inspiration. Flowers are naturally gorgeous. They are nature's most beautiful works of art. Be inspired and work with their color, fragrance, and shapes to create the effect you want to achieve. Take time to blossom and use flowers in your daily life as messengers of love, friendship, and remembrance.

## Why a bouquet?

Bouquets symbolize life, growth, and fertility. Different flowers are assembled into a bouquet for further meanings.



JEN FARELLO



JEN FARELLO

## Flowers and Centerpieces for your Special Event

### The Best Flowers Year 'Round

When deciding which flowers to include in wedding bouquets and centerpieces, consider the different types of flowers that will be blooming during the time of your wedding or your special event.

### Flowers That Look Great and Are Easy To Get All Year

- Baby's Breath: white and delicate
- Bachelor's Button: symbolizes hope
- Carnation: available in a million colors
- Freesia: symbolize innocence, trust, and friendship
- Gardenia: white and fragrant, and symbolizes joy
- Gladiolus: symbolizes sincerity
- Iris: symbolizes faith, wisdom, promise, and good health
- Lily of the Valley: symbolizes humility
- Orchid: pink, white, and purple orchids symbolize beauty
- Rose: available in many colors and symbolizes love
- Stephanotis: this flower symbolizes a happy marriage

### Winter Flora

- Calla Lily: symbolizes purity
- Camellia: symbolizes gratitude
- Forget-Me-Not: a blue flower that represents remembrance
- Holly: luscious green with deep red berries, holly brings domestic bliss
- Ivy: mostly green or variegated, with the true quality of fidelity
- Poinsettia: a traditional holiday flower that comes in red, white, and pink
- Tulip: means "perfect lover"



JEN FARELLO



JEN FARBELLO



JEN FARBELLO

## Spring Flowers

- Allium: symbolizes unity, humility, and patience
- Anemone: means forsaken many
- Apple Blossom: soft, romantic, and white
- Daffodil: symbolizes unity
- Forsythia: yellow and symbolizes anticipation
- Geranium: most common in red and pink, this flower stands for unity
- Hyacinth: this flower stands for constancy
- Jonquil: means affection shared
- Lilac: lilacs are the sign of new love
- Larkspur: means decidedly fickle
- Magnolia: thick white blossoms and symbolizes love of nature
- Narcissus: this white bloom represents formality
- Orange Blossom: a white wedding flower that symbolizes happiness
- Violet: richly purple and symbolizes faithfulness

## Summer Blossoms

- Aster: means daintiness
- Daisy: means you'll share your feelings
- Hydrangea: symbolizes understanding
- Forget-Me-Not: delicate and blue, this is the flower of remembrance
- Peony: pink, magenta, or white, and they'll symbolize a happy marriage
- Sweet Pea: comes in many colors, perfect for someone you're just meeting
- Sunflower: stands for adoration and pride
- Zinnia: means "thinking of you"

## Autumn Blooms

- Chrysanthemum: whether it's gold, red, or white, it means a good friend
- Dahlia: tons of colors for this traditional autumn flower
- Marigold: blazing gold/red, marigolds harbor sacred affection
- Zinnia: symbolizes thinking of you
- Leaves and Foliage: symbol of wedded love
- Dried Flowers: represents sadness

## Centerpieces

Although centerpieces are most often composed of floral arrangements, there are many other options and creative variations:

Burning candles on top of a mirror

Wishing wells with papers and pens where guests can put best wishes, little notes, etc.

Glass dishes/bowls with floating candles

Wedding cakes for each table

Champagne buckets

Small potted plants

Bonsai trees

Fish bowls

Baskets of fresh flowers

Topiaries

Herbs and greenery

Bridesmaids bouquets

Favors that double as centerpieces

Flowers and sentiments

*A special thanks to The Event Company for taking time to help us all blossom. The accompanying photographs reflect their creative and distinctive work throughout Virginia. Compiled by Anne P. Murray.*

