

# Vase Mechanics

## Foam



### Pros

You can cut to size.  
Retains moisture.  
Holds flowers & stems firmly in place.  
Cheap.  
Easy for beginners.

### Cons

Not eco-friendly. Foam doesn't allow you to shift/fluff flowers after placement. Will lose stability if you keep removing/reinserting stems; the foam will break down. Only works for solid vases, not clear.

## Waterproof grid tape



### Pros

Works for clear vases.  
Provides support & structure to arrangements.  
Cheap.

### Cons

Not as supportive as foam or chicken wire. Can detach if the stems get too weighty. Clear tape doesn't hold well; must go with green waterproof tape.

## Floral chicken wire/mesh netting



### Pros

Flexible, eco-friendly, reusable. Can cut to size. Many uses especially for installation work. An entire roll lasts forever! Great for beginners.

### Cons

Pricy to buy the entire roll, typically around \$50. Slightly pokey, wear gloves. Does not work with clear vases.

## Pin frog



### Pros

Acceptable to see this mechanic, so you can put in a clear vase. Eco-friendly & reusable. Allows you to easily shift flowers around. Can be used in clear vases.

### Cons

Harder to find and slightly expensive. Must have a dry surface & attach to the bottom of the vase with floral clay/putty. Slight learning curve, not easy for beginners.

## GREAT VASEWARE TO CONSIDER

### Bud vases

**Pros:** Easy to find online, stores, or thrift stores. Bud vases are inexpensive & take only 1-3 blooms. Easy to design. Great for beginners. Nice to scatter. Can be transported in wine cases. No need for mechanics.

**Cons:** You typically need 3-5 budvases to make a visual impact. Not a lot of design control.

### 3" mason jar sized vases

**Pros:** Very easy to design in & easy to find in stores and online. Has more visual weight than a bud vase. Takes fewer flowers than the traditional centerpiece. Typically does not require mechanics like wire or foam.

**Cons:** Not many negatives.

### 5-6" vase or compote

**Pros:** More room to create a whimsical design.

**Cons:** Can take more florals than bud vases or 3" mason jars.