

Wiring and Arranging Flowers:

How to assemble floral sprays and enhance with finishing touches..

Chef Nicholas Lodge

Materials

These are the basic materials for arranging flowers. You can choose whichever style of ribbon you prefer - such as grosgrain, satin - and colours of wire and floral tape. You can begin by arranging the bridal spray from Episode 1, or choose your own selection of flowers and leaves.

- Wired clay or sugar flowers, buds and leaves
- Ribbons
- White / green wires
- Green / brown / grey floral tape
- If inserting an arrangement into a cake, use food grade poly dowel / drinking straw to cover wires.
- Hot glue

Bridal Spray Arrangement



Spray Ribbon Loops

1. Take a 61cm (24 inches) length of green grosgrain ribbon.
2. Hold in centre.
3. Measure 10cm (4 inches) and form a loop. Repeat and then repeat again on opposite side forming a double figure of 8 shape.
4. Twist a 26g wire through the centre.
5. Trim ends, tape base and repeat giving two bows.

Arrangement Styles

POSY: Traditional Victorian – Fairly compact spray with Rose as a center point and circles of flowers (eg. Violets, Ivy Leaves, Primrose, etc.) Informal or Loose Posy – Mix of similarly sized flowers (eg. Roses, Carnations, etc.)

BOUQUET: Cascade of larger to small flowers, usually wired throughout in one piece, but can be made up in sections and joined together to make a large trailing design.

CRESCENT: A central focal area with arched, and sometimes trailing, sides. Easily converted to an ‘S’ spray by inverting one side.

CORSAGE: A small arrangement of one or two main flowers, with some small flowers and leaves.

NATURAL: An erect arrangement to resemble the natural setting or ‘growing’ aspect of flowers.

KNIFE SPRAY: The knife spray carries the theme of the cake decoration onto the cake table and makes a delightful accessory for the photographs. If the cake has been decorated with large flowers, then smaller examples will be needed for the knife spray. Because the knife will be used during the ceremony, the flowers need to be well secured in readiness for being used to cut the cake. The flowers need to be attached where the handle meets the blade so that they do not obstruct the blade. A knife block is a useful display aid.

