



# Floral Design Stem Count Guide



Easy DIY florals for your event...



# Build your own set of gorgeous floral arrangements for your event with this simple guide.

DIY flowers are perfect for those creative, adventurous souls who have a few eager hands to help, ample time before their event, and a flexible vision for the final result.

In this guide, we've included everything you need to succeed:

- Suggested timeline for delivery & design
- Storage and travel tips
- Stem count estimates
- Floral design tips

You've got this!

~ Caroline & The Petal Patisserie team



## Suggested Delivery & Design Timeline

We suggest picking a delivery date for your flowers that is **3 days prior to your event**. Foliage can be delivered up to 1 week prior and still look fresh for your big day.

**Tip: Foliage can be delivered and processed in the beginning of the week, saving you time later for design and processing of the flowers.**

If you are placing an order through a wholesaler, select flower varieties with a longer vase life to ensure that they stay looking fresh.

If placing your order with a local Flower Farmer, let them know the type of event you are holding, so they can advise you on recommended varieties and delivery dates. You will receive much fresher flowers from a flower farmer often cut a day or two prior, which will allow you to choose from a wider variety than with a wholesaler. Wholesale flowers may be cut, packed and shipped up to 4-7 days prior to you receiving the flowers.





### Example Timeline:

Monday - Receive buckets of foliage and process stems. Store in buckets of water, in a cool dark room overnight to hydrate.

Tuesday - Begin design of vased arrangements by adding stems of foliage to each vase. This technique is called **“Greening In”**, and will save you design time with flowers and handheld arrangements later in the week.

Wednesday - Receive buckets of flowers and process stems. Store in buckets of water, in a cool dark room overnight to hydrate.\*

Thursday - Design day! Add your flowers to the vases you “Greened In” earlier in the week. Design your handheld bouquets and arrangements. Store every arrangement in water in a cool dark room until your event.

Friday/Saturday - Transport your arrangements to your event.

**\*NOTE: If flowers are delivered from a flower farm, they are already well-hydrated and processed, so you can skip this step and begin directly designing with them. Yet another perk from ordering local!**



## Storage Tips

We've listed our recommended methods for storing common arrangements, and how to pack your car and travel with your finished arrangements.

### Vased arrangements -

Store in a cool dark room, away from direct sunlight. Avoid placing flowers under or near AC vents. Refill vases with water if needed.

### Handheld arrangements -

Leave stems long enough to place the bouquets in a vase filled with water. Follow the same storage tips above as for vased arrangements.

### Boutonnieres -

Leave the stems long enough to store them in glassware or shot glasses filled with water. Cut and wrap them the morning of your event. They can be stored in a tupperware or sealed plastic bag in the refrigerator after being cut.

### Corsages and Flower Crowns-

Since these will not have a direct water source, prepare them the day prior to your event. Store them in a tupperware or sealed plastic bag in the refrigerator. You can add a slightly moist paper towel under the corsage to aid in keeping the flowers fresh.



# Travel Tips

There are two methods of transporting flowers to your event:

## Option 1:

(Best for folks traveling to your event location the week prior)

Transport your flower bunches in buckets prior to design, or have your wholesaler/flower farmer deliver the bulk buckets to the location where you will be DIYing your arrangements. Pack buckets tight together with only 2-3 inches of water in each to prevent sloshing during transport. Pad blankets or boxes in the empty space around the buckets to prevent them from tipping or sliding.

## Option 2:

(Best for folks traveling the day or two prior to your event, or your event is local)

Transport vased arrangements in open boxes, padded on the sides with newspaper, bubble-wrap, or towels to secure them. Keep handheld bouquets in the same vases you used for storage/hydration and pack using a similar method. Flowers should not be touching packing material to avoid bruising. Boutonnieres, corsages, and flower crowns stored in tupperware can be easily stacked for transport, but be sure to get these back into a refrigerator immediately upon arrival.





# DIY Weddings

## Bridal Bouquet

25-30 Stems of Flowers

10 Stems of Foliage

**Design Tip: Pick 1 signature flower reserved for the Bridal bouquet to make it stand out.**

## Bridesmaid Bouquet

10-15 Stems of Flowers

10 Stems of Foliage

## Boutonniere

1 Focal Flower

2 Filler Flowers

2 Stems of Foliage

## Wrist Corsage or

## Pin-On Corsage

1 Focal Flower

3-5 Filler Flowers

2 Stems of Foliage





# DIY Weddings

## Large Statement Piece

30-35 Stems of Flowers

15-20 Stems of Foliage

## Cocktail Arrangement

10 Stems of Flowers

5 Stems of Foliage

## Centerpieces

For a 60" Round Table:

15-20 Stems of Flowers

10 Stems of Foliage

**Aim for 12-18" in diameter for your arrangement.**

For a 72" Round Table:

20-25 Stems of Flowers

10-15 Stems of Foliage

**Aim for 18-24" in diameter for your arrangement.**







# DIY Weddings

## Bud Vases

1-3 stems per vase

**Design Tip: Cut stems to varying heights to add more style and drama, and cluster bud vases in groups of 3 or as one long row down a table.**

## Gardland or Loose Foliage

20-25 Stems of Foliage for an  
8ft Long Rectangular table

## Wedding Cake Flowers

For a Cake Topper:

5 Stems of Flowers

3 Sprigs of Herbs for Foliage

For a Cascading Design:

10-12 Stems of Flowers

10 Sprigs of Herbs for Foliage





# Parties & Showers

## Flower Bar

Order approximately 10-15 stems per attendee, with an equal mix of foliage, filler, and focal flowers.

## Mason Jar Centerpieces

10 Stems of Flowers

5 Stems of Foliage

## Flower Crowns

12-15 Stems of Flowers

2-3 Stems of Foliage

**Design Tip: Choose spray flowers with smaller heads**







# DIY Flower Bucket Ordering

We offer bulk ordering of our locally grown Focal flowers, Filler flowers, and Foliage in **bunches of 10 stems each** to allow you maximum flexibility. Your order will be packed in buckets for easy pick-up.

We offer **various color palettes**, but cannot guarantee specific flower varieties. While our crops are carefully planned, bloom timing ultimately rests with Mother Nature. Although whichever the season, you will receive the  **freshest, most unique, and highest quality**  flowers that our farm has to offer!

"Thank you for supporting our small family farm!"  
~ Caroline, Steve, & Baby W

[Click Here to Order](#)  
[DIY Buckets](#)