

Holiday Teacup Recipe



Everyday items laying around the kitchen can easily be converted to stunning displays. This recipe will utilize the tea cup. It can be as fancy as elegant china or as simple as the cups and saucers you use everyday.

You Will Need:

Block Of Floral Foam & Floral Preservative
Three Stems Of Baker Fern
Three Stems Of Red Mini-Carnations
Two Stems Of White Pompon Chrysanthemums
Holly Sprigs
White Pine Branches
A Festive Red Bow

Step 1: Soak the floral foam in warm water and preservative solution and cut it to fit into the teacup, leaving one inch of foam extending up from the lip of the cup.

Step 2: Green-in your design with the triangles of Baker fern. Use one longer stem to reach from the back/center upwards no more than twice the height of the cup. So, my cup is three inches tall, so my tallest triangle of Baker fern extends six inches from the lip of the cup. Continue filling in the top and front of the cup with Baker fern, using progressively smaller triangles toward the front.

Step 3: Use your red mini-carnations to make triangles (the blooms are the points of the triangle). Fill in larger spots with the larger white mums.

Step 4: Add your accents. I added some pine boughs and holly springs and a nice red bow.

Holiday Topiary Recipe



For a simple yet festive holiday centerpiece, try this topiary of Gerbera Daisies. A holiday-inspired mug is filled with a topiary Christmas tree of red Gerbera Daisies and tied with a festive holiday ribbon. Cranberries - a holiday tradition - cover the foam for a picture perfect look.

You will need:

10 red Gerbera Daisies
One red or green mug
One-half brick floral foam & Floral Preservative
Two-foot holiday ribbon
Fresh cranberries
One rubber band

Step 1: Fill container with wet floral foam (soaked in water and preservative solution for at least 30 minutes). Gather the flowers in the web of your hand (between thumb and other fingers), holding them just under the bloom. The flowers should tuck neatly into each other. If right handed gather the flowers in your left hand. Rubber band the stems together and bring the rubber band up just under the blooms. This will make the Gerberas perky and straight.

Step 2: Hold all the stems of the flowers in a neat bundle. Insert the bunch into the center of the floral foam.

Step 3: Cover the floral foam with fresh cranberries. Using your favorite holiday ribbon, tie a bow around the rubber band. For trans-seasonal appeal, change the color of the Gerberas or try other flower varieties such as Iris, standard and miniature Carnations, Chrysanthemums, Roses and Lilies. Be sure to match the container and ribbon to the season.

Let your imagination run wild!

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Thanksgiving Flower Recipe



You Will Need:

Floral Foam Soaked In Water & Floral Preservative
A Basket With A Handle To Hold A 4" Pot
A Clear Plastic Liner For The Basket
3 Yellow Gerbera Daisies
2 Stems Of Orange Cushion Mums
3 Stems Of Leather Leaf (Baker) Fern
2 Stems Bronze Button Mums
Floral Tape Or Modeler's Clay

Step 1: Remove clear plastic liner from basket. Cut liner to a height of 2" by removing approximately one-half of the length from the top with sharp scissors. Cut wet foam and insert into liner, allowing 1" of foam to stay above the top of the liner. Turn the basket onto its side (90 degree angle, so it rests like cornucopia) and slide the foam into the liner. Secure the liner by inserting foam shavings underneath. Floral tape may also be used. Keep the basket stable by sticking a piece of modeler's clay to the table surface, by the rim of the basket.

Step 2: Green-in the basket with the leatherleaf fern, using progressively larger triangles of the frond (leaflets) moving from the top (smallest) to bottom (largest). Use one entire piece of fern inserted parallel to the table extending to the handle of the basket, only a 1/4 to 1/2 inch above the table (barely resting on the table.)

Step 3: Take the three largest flowers (gerberas or spider mums) and insert them into the floral foam about 1/2 inch, creating a long triangle. The longest point is low and barely above the long piece of fern extending nearly to the basket handle. The second point reaches 2/3 the length of the first and is about 2" above it. The third point is at a 90 degree angle from the table and is about 1/3 the length of the longest stem. These are focal points and the triangle they create is the heart of the cornucopia.

Step 4: Add orange cushion mums in 3's by inserting them into the floral foam, creating smaller, asymmetrical triangles with imaginary lines. Add the bronze or scarlet mums to the arrangement next, keeping blooms inside the original yet imaginary line created by the focal flowers. Add accents such as cattails, dried grass plumes, colorful fall leaves, or bumpy gourds. Keep floral foam moist by watering once a day.

Fall Pumpkin Recipe



You Will Need:

1-Four Inch Pumpkin
1 Block Of Floral Foam Soaked In Water & Floral Preservative
1/2 Bunch Yellow Cushion (Pompon) Mums

Extra Enhancements:

A Few Stems Bronze Button Mums
1 Stem Asiatic Lily
Dried Ornamental Corn Still On The Cob
Ornamental Grass Plumes Cut To 8 Inches Long
Your imagination!

Step 1: Hollow the pumpkin. Consider cutting at an angle so that the top stem remains-or simply use the traditional cut out the top method.

Step 2: Cut floral foam to fit in, but leave extending 1/2 inch above the rim. Soak foam in warm water that has floral preservative added to it.

Step 3: Use the bottom fronds of the largest Baker Fern to fill in and around the foam base. Place the 2 medium sized fronds back to back about 6 inches up from the rim.

Step 4: Arrange in groups of major triangles for centerpiece. Place 3 buds at outermost points.

Step 5: Fill in the angles, but stay below the imaginary lines.

Step 6: Use accents in and around the arrangement.

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Arts & Craft Style Table Décor

Nature is the key for the Arts & Crafts style décor. A fresh armload of flowers, the textural branches of a tree and all of nature's bountiful gifts lend themselves to the Arts & Crafts interior. Better yet, it doesn't take a design pro to recreate this style. Follow these easy steps for a "can't-take-your-eyes-off-it" floral display down the center of the table.



You Will Need:

Three Clear Glass Hurricane Vases
One Bunch Yellow Pompon Mums
Nine Orange Carnations
One Bunch Natural Branches (Nine Total Stems)
Collect Them From The Backyard - Beech, Birch, Pussy Willow, Forsythia Are Great Options.

Extra Enhancements

Three Dinner Plates Or Chargers
Fresh Evergreen Branches
Pinecones And Autumn Foliage

Step 1: Fill hurricanes with water and flower food.

Pompon Mums

Cut 18 stems of Pompon Mums approximately 12 inches long. Stems should be cut with ends flat so they rest evenly in container (six per hurricane). Remove lateral blooms from Pompons, leaving two or three blooms at the center of the stem.

Carnations

Cut Carnations eight inches long.
Strip all foliage from the flower stems.

Step 2: Cut ends of nine branches six inches long (three for each hurricane). Lean vertically to criss-cross inside hurricane, forming a natural flower holder.

Step 3: Juxtapose three Carnations at an angle between branches in each hurricane.

Step 4: Cut three to six branch tips 14-16 inches long (one-two per hurricane). Lay six 12 inch Pompon stems along side the center branch (per hurricane). Insert in center of each container. Insert remaining laterals around the center insert. Add water and enjoy.

Step 5: (Optional) For an added touch, slide each hurricane under a favorite dinner plate or decorative charger. Enhance plates with fresh Evergreens, pinecones and autumn foliage.

Voila!! Even Frank Lloyd Wright would applaud this design. You'll be amazed at how your imagination can be applied to all seasons.

Winter Wonderland - A beautiful winter white display can be accomplished with white Pompons and white Carnations. Plates can be enhanced with holiday ornaments and winter foliage.

Think Spring - Create inspired combinations of flowering branches and spring flowers such as hot pink Gerberas and yellow Roses. Plates can be enhanced with floral petals and decorative figurines.

Summer Sensation - Promote a garden look using drinking straws to juxtapose between sensational summer flowers. Plates can be enhanced with fresh fruit combinations.

Classic Style Table Décor



The classic style is timeless. Protected from the chaos and din of day-to-day life, the classic look finds peace in the rhythms of nature and security of home. Surrounded by what is familiar and loved, the classic table décor includes treasured stemware and velvety Gerbera Daisies to celebrate the holiday season in simplicity and elegance.

You Will Need:

Three Wine Glasses
Three Martini Glasses
Six red Gerbera Daisies
Bunch of Salal foliage
A Hand Stapler

Extra Enhancements:

Fresh Evergreen Branches
Holiday Ornaments
#40 Velvet Ribbon

Here are five easy steps to create a simple yet stylish holiday centerpiece that can be updated and recreated well into the New Year.

Step 1: Fill the wine and martini glasses with water, preservative solution and flower food.

Step 2: Cut the Gerbera Daisies under water. The stems should be approximately five inches in length so that the daisy heads rest on the rim of the wine glass. Place three Gerberas in each wine glass.

Step 3: The collar is simply a circle of Salal (lemon) leaves. Make three collars: Remove individual leaves from Salal stem. Place leaves in a semi-circle and staple together. Staple two semi-circles together to form a circle of leaves. Use a sharp knife to pierce the center of the collars.

Step 4: Insert one Gerbera Daisy into the opening in the center of the collar. Repeat this process with the remaining Gerberas. Place one in each martini glass. The collar and Gerberas should be cut to they rest on the rim of the martini glass.

Step 5: Cut velvet ribbon the length of the table. Run down the center of the table. Place the flower-filled martini glasses in a triangle in the center of the table. Nestle the flower-filled wine glasses around the martini glasses. Place the Evergreens in a garland-like trail down the table and add the ornaments to complete the placement.

There you have it! A classic holiday centerpiece fit for a king or queen. Using the timeless, simple components of glass, flowers and foliage, enjoy a clean and natural floral presentation that has tremendous longevity.

Common in-home, on-hand items such as wine and martini glasses make this centerpiece a breeze for busy, time-strapped hosts and hostesses. This trans-seasonal floral recipe can be adapted to any season.

Ring in the New Year - Use white instead of red Gerbera Daisies and replace the ornaments with noisemakers for a winter wonderland look to welcome baby New Year!

Spring Fling - Do a mix of Gerbera Daisies in vibrant spring colors for a carnival of color that is sure to cure spring fever. Place the glasses on a brightly-colored table runner and enhance with floral petals.

Summer Scents - In addition to updating the look with the sensational colors of summer flowers, consider using tall, clear ice tea glasses instead of wine glasses.

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