

**BHARATH COLLEGE OF SCIENCE AND  
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**DEPARTMENT OF HOTEL MANAGEMENT**

**FRONT OFFICE AND ACCOMMODATION  
OPERATIONS  
16SACHM2**

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## UNIT - 5

### FLOWER ARRANGEMENT

Flower Arrangement is a very old art and it is widely used in hotel, offices, and hospitals on everyday basis. Flower arrangement may be defined as the art of organizing and grouping together plant materials to achieve harmony of form, color, and texture. They add cheer, beauty, life and happiness to the ambiance.

In hotels flowers are used extensively.



#### **Flower arrangement in Hotels:**

Flower arrangement is a design of beauty. It is essentially a decorative piece and should be the centre of attraction. An arrangement can be composed of only flowers and or foliage or in combination with vegetables and fruits. Flower arrangements have an ability to introduce a personal touch in an otherwise staid and impersonal hotel room. Arrangements can be used in lobbies, restaurants, suites etc. Guests appreciate flowers for the freshness they bring to the surroundings. Arrangements need not be reserved only for parties or special occasions. They can be used regularly depending upon the season and the theme. Unconventional and dry material can also be used to make arrangements which are more economical and last longer.

#### **Different Types of Flowers Used in Flower Arrangements:**

According to Elements of Classic Designs, each type of flower in an arrangement has a purpose. Line flowers create the arrangement's structure. Focal flowers draw attention to one area of the arrangement. Accent and filler flowers supply body and color.

1. Line Flowers
2. Focal Flowers
3. Filler Flowers
4. Textured Flowers

## 5. Fragrant Flowers

### **Flower arrangement Basics:**

Making up a good flower arrangement requires a lot of creativity on the part of the arranger, and beginners can develop this art through study and experimentation with different plant materials.

### **Basic Ingredients:**

The following groups of ingredients and aids are essential to flower arrangement.

- Mechanics
- Equipment
- Containers
- Bases
- Accessories
- Plant Material
- Support

### **Mechanics :**

There are some items used to keep the flowers, foliage, and stems in place within the container. Mechanics must be fixed securely and should be hidden from view. The most popular and basic mechanics are florists' foam, pin-holders, and chicken wire. Many of the mechanics listed below.

#### 1. Floral foam:

This is also called 'oasis'. This is a cellular plastic material. There are two types of foam available green and brown/grey foam.

#### 2. Chicken wire:

This is also called 'wire mesh' or 'wire netting'. A fine-gauge wire should be selected.

#### 3. Pin holders:

These are also called 'kenzan' or needle pin holders. It holds thick and heavy stems securely by impaling them on the pins.

#### 4. Prong:

This is the simplest type of floral foam anchor.

#### 5. Florist's cone:

This is also called a 'flower tube' or 'flower funnel'. It acts like a miniature vase.

#### 6. clay:

There are three types of clay adhesive clay, setting clay, non-setting clay. These are used to securing the flowers and stems of topiary trees in pots. Plaster of Paris and Plasticine can be used as an alternative.

#### 7. Adhesive tape:

This is also called 'oasis tape'. It is mainly used to secure floral foam or chicken wire to the container.

#### 8. Glue:

Quick-drying glue is used in dried flower arrangements to attach flowers or leaves to the containers or to other plant materials.

### **Equipment:**

Like any craft, flower arrangement requires good equipments and proper tools.

#### 1. Vase:

These are of different sizes and colour. They may be made of metal, glass, porcelain, wood etc.

#### 2. Flower Shears:

They may be of ordinary scissors type or with a spring for easy cutting of wooden stems.

#### 3. Pin holders:

These are made of heavy metal like iron with fine prospecting pins. They may be of different shapes and sizes for use in different containers.

#### 4. Wire Mesh:

This is made of steel wire for supporting and balancing of flowers.

### **Other Equipments:**

Florists tape, foam, water spray, rubber bands, tooth picks, thin wire, rocks, pebbles, accessories like birds, butter flies, figurines, sheds etc. A sink, running water and working surface with storage area must be provided.

### **Containers:**

The container or flower vase forms the main base of flower arrangement. Care should be taken to choose the right shape. For large arrangement the container

should be large enough, with big mouth to hold the number of stems and foliage's. The container should be less decorative, because over decoration may spoil the beauty of decoration.



#### 1.Vase and Jug:

A Vase is a Container Which is tall, wide and is often quite narrow. A Jug is a lipped container with a single handed.

#### 2.Basket:

This is a popular container for dried flower arrangements. Willow and bamboo baskets are easily available.

#### 3.Bowls and Trays:

These are shallow containers. Dried or artificial plant materials are inserted into it.

#### 4.Rose Bowl:

This used to be a popular container for table decorations.

#### 5.Wreath frame:

Wreaths bedecked with seasonal flowers and berries.

#### 6.Miscellaneous objects:

Common items of daily use, such as wine glasses, jelly moulds, decanters, saucepans ,coffeepots, and so on may be used as containers as well.

#### **Bases:**

An object that is placed underneath the container to protect the surface of the support and/or to add beauty of the display is called a Base.

Table mat, Tree section, Wood base, Stone Base, Covered Base, Oriental bases are commonly Used

#### **Accessories:**

The term describes objects of non-plant material used in a design with plant material. It refers to things such as candles, jars, bottles, mirror which are not used as the container but are added to the design for extra interest. Accessories are not

easy to incorporate into a design and it is wise to become reasonably accomplished in flower arrangement before starting the use of same.

The non-living objects like pebbles, coal pieces, drift wood, pieces of rock etc. we can also use ribbons around the vase or in the form of bows which makes the arrangement beautiful. However, these accessories should not become the focal point of the arrangement design. Too much use of accessories is not a good habit. In few arrangements mirror can be used to reflect the arrangement.

Bows and other accessories are often used on the bud vase. If the bud vase is made for a special occasion, the accessories help contribute to the theme. For example, if the occasion were a Fourth of July celebration, then a red, white, and blue ribbon would complement the theme. A small flag would be an additional thematic accessory. Shamrocks on St. Patrick's Day would be an ideal accessory. Butterflies and bumble bees are often used on novelty bud vases.

### **Principals of Flower arrangement:**

The principles of design are applicable to flower arrangement as well. Design determines the structural pattern of the arrangement. It consists of the relationship between the flowers, foliage and containers. Any design can be produced i.e. suitable to the occasion and the surroundings. Design is determined by site of placement, function and materials available. Arrangements may have also to be two sided or all round.

### **Balance:**

Materials should be placed to give a feeling of stability. Form and colour are important aspects of balance.

#### a. Formal balance or Symmetrical Balance:

In this type, both sides have equal material on either side of the central line. The flowers should have equal visual weight and colour.

#### b. Informal or Asymmetrical Balance

In this, two sides are not equal but still have equal visual weight. Dark colours give an effect of more weight than light colours. They should be centred low in the arrangement. Lighter colours give an impression of lightness and are more suitable towards the outer and upper ends of arrangement.

### **Scale:**

It means proportion and relationship of the various parts of the composition. The plant material has to be in proportion with the container used and the scaling of the plant items with each other must be kept in mind along with the site and function. A flower arrangement is of good proportion when it is of right side for the container and placement.

### **Rhythm:**

Rhythm can be described as a sense of movement, which flows through the main lines of the arrangement. The purpose of it is to direct once eyes along it so that the shape of the entire composition is followed and understood. In flower arrangement this is achieved by grading flowers and arranging foliage, leaning towards the sides. These lines partly decide the design of arrangement.

### **Focal Point:**

It is the central point of arrangement where emphasis is obtained by large accented flowers, group of flowers or use of darker colours.

### **Harmony and Unity:**

Ensure that the materials are suitable for the site and the occasion. The colours of the flowers and the container should blend with each other easily or provide a pleasing contrast with each other and with the background. Unity of materials is necessary to view the arrangement without any distraction from the main line of movement.

### **Basic Patterns of Flower Arrangement:**

The most basic patterns for flower arrangements are:

#### **Fan shaped flower arrangement:**



It is one of the commonly used classic floral arrangement styles that are used by various florists around the world. Here, the flowers and leaves are arranged in the shape of a fan. You can easily use the same or different type of flowers for the arrangement and the empty spaces are filled with the help of fillers.

#### **Vertical flower arrangement:**



This type of flower arrangement is mostly used in flower bouquets as well as flower baskets. Different types of flowers with varying colours and shapes are used prominently in this type of flower arrangement. It is equally popular among the florist stores, customers and floral experts around the world.

#### **Horizontal flower arrangement:**



The floral arrangement makes use of the shallow container where a single big flower is accompanied with drooping flower branches on either side. Here, flowers of different shapes and colours are arranged in the form of rows or zigzag pattern. Further, flowers with strong fragrance or scent are used in this type of flower arrangement.

#### **Triangular flower arrangement:**





It is a triangular flower arrangement where flowers are cut and trimmed in the form of a triangle. The arrangement makes use of the tallest flower stems in the centre with smaller flowers arranged on the sides in order to maintain a triangular shape. This type of floral arrangement is mostly used in wedding ceremonies and receptions.

### **Oval flower arrangement:**



This floral arrangement is in an oval shape and comprises of brightest and tallest flowers in the centre. Here, the flowers, green stems and leaves are cut and trimmed in the form of an oval shaped arrangement that is elegantly placed in a bouquet, flower basket and bunches. The arrangement appears very dense and

bushy from outside and is extremely elegant in nature. It is effectively utilized in interior decoration for ceremony halls and special venues.

### **Crescent flower arrangement:**



This type of flower arrangement draws its inspiration from the shape of the moon. Based on the size of the crescent, curved shaped flower stems are selected for the arrangement. It makes use of the flexible stems such as gladiola and carnations which are supported by the glossy flower wraps, green leaves and stem fillers.

### **'S' shaped flower arrangement:**



Here, the flowers are artistically arranged in the form of alphabet 'S' which gives shape to extraordinary flower bouquets and baskets. This superb flower arrangement is usually big in size and can be wonderfully presented for any special occasion or celebration. Further, the flowers are here placed in flower stands and appear upright and make use of leaves and floral fillers for the amazing arrangement. This complex flower arrangement can effortlessly change the entire look and feel of any special event.

All the patterns have their base according to the surroundings. Tall vertical arrangements are suitable for lounge areas while horizontal arrangements will be suitable on coffee tables, banquet tables and other low tables. A circular arrangement is necessary on a coffee table and banquet table since it can be viewed from all sides. The pattern of the arrangement should not interfere with the purpose of the furniture arrangement.

### **Flower Arrangement in Different Locations:**

Flowers are used for decorating various areas in the hotel like restaurants, reception area, lobby area, rooms etc. They provide a cheerful appearance and colour to the room. The arrangement should blend with the décor of the room. It should be suited to the occasion and location.

#### **Arrangements for VIP Rooms:**



Arrangements here offer a great variety in design and imagination. The placement will vary according to the type of room and its décor. The writing table, bedside table or coffee table should be used for placing tall arrangements. The flowers used in rooms should not attract insects.

#### **Flower arrangements for reception area:**



The reception desk is the first area that the guest comes in contact with. This desk becomes part of the lounge or lobby. Arrangements should lend character and cheerfulness to the surroundings. They should blend with the décor. Roses, tuberose and gladioli, chrysanthemums, carnations etc are most suitable. The arrangement may be two-dimensional since it needs to be viewed by the guest.

#### **Buffet Table:**



Flower arrangements on buffet table act as centrepieces and focus of attention. The basic rules of arrangements in dining area should be followed and a multi- tier arrangement of a combination with fruits and carved vegetables can be made. Flowers used should not have a strong smell. Theme arrangements can be made in theme restaurants.

### **Banquet Table:**



A banquet is a formal sit down service and the flower arrangement must also follow a formal pattern. The colour should blend harmoniously with the décor of the banquet hall. A table that is large with a seating capacity of 15-20 guests, should have at least 4-5 small arrangements. These should be low and all round. Flower arrangement for special banquets like wedding banquets or in honour of VIP guests should be formal and usually monochromatic.

### **Coffee Table:**



For a coffee table a low mass arrangement that can be viewed from all sides is suitable. Few large flowers combined with tiny blossoms are appropriate. Arrangements can be informal and relaxing.

### **Types of flower arrangement**

There are 3 different types of flower arrangements

They are as follows:

- 1. Western style/ Traditional style**
- 2. Oriental style/ Japanese style**
- 3..Modern style/ Abstract style.**

### **1. Western Style:**

This style is also known as traditional style of flower arrangement. The Western style of flower arrangement is based on symmetrical grouping of different flowers. It is displayed on high decorative vase. The flower arrangement in this section is very large and vast. Small flowers are concentrated on the center, with large flowers surrounded with them. The center always content dark flowers while light colors flowers are there to outline them. The shape may be round oval or triangular.

### **2. Oriental style:**

Oriental style is better known as **IKEBANA** (Arrangement of fresh flowers). It is based on the arrangement of fresh flowers and foliage's.

### **IKEBANA:**

kebana, the ancient Japanese art of flower arranging, has been practiced for more than 600 years. Practitioners use flowers, branches, and leaves to create living pieces of art that show the unique beauty and character of each stem. It is practiced and enjoyed by people all over the world. Ikebana is different from Western floral arrangements in its use of “empty” space and asymmetrical forms. The design of the arrangement also uses as few stems as possible – less is more – showcasing the elegant line of the material or the beauty of the flower.

In each arrangement ,there is an imaginary triangle. Its tallest line represents ‘Heaven’. Facing and looking towards heaven is ‘Man’. The lowest line, looking up to both, is ‘Earth’.



### **3.Modern style:**

In the case of modern flower arrangements, there are no hard and fast rules about the making. The look of this floral arrangement totally depends on the taste of the florist or floral designer. They use both fresh flowers and foliage's along with dry part of trees pieces of wood , bark and even sculpture.

### **Use of Dry material in Flower Arrangement:**

A dry flower arrangement is a long lasting arrangement that is made by using dried flower material. Most dry material can be collected in autumn. Examples of the materials for such arrangements are stems of barley, oats, rice etc. Pine cones, wood roses, bull roses, onion seed heads, poppy seed heads, corn cobs, lichen, wired shaped roots, dried grass, feathers, sea weed, dried lotus, Cyprus palm etc. This material can be treated with a coat of varnish, paint or silver and gold wash. Accessories like marbles, coloured glass, bits of metals or strips of metal foil, dried berries, feathers, pebbles, drift wood, ribbons, thremocoal balls, candles, bells, glass balls can be used.

### **Essentials in Flower Arrangements:**

- |                            |                                  |
|----------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1. A good design           | 4. Flower composition            |
| 2. Right shape             | 5 Accessories in the arrangement |
| 3. Colour of the container |                                  |

While starting the arrangement, make a definite mental plan. Design on the basic form in such a way that taller and wider material goes first in a definite leading line. Locate the focal point low and near the centre. Let the plant material partially cover the container. Avoid even number of flowers except in a formal



arrangement. Keep the height of flowers  $\frac{1}{2}$  times the width of container. Place tall arrangements in tall containers but low containers can be used for both kinds of arrangements. Two items must never appear at the same height. Stems can be bent to obtain curves in the arrangement. Avoid crossing of stems and observe the reflection of the arrangement in a mirror.

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