

# Texas State Florists' Association

## Power Point Presentation for the High School Floral Certification Testing



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Texas State Florists' Association  
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United States of America

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# Texas State Florists' Association

Power Point Presentation  
for the  
**High School Floral  
Certification  
Testing**  
of the  
**Symmetrical Triangle  
Arrangement  
and  
Boutonniere**

Revised 2011

# High School Certification Testing Information

- Must enroll by deadline date – usually in middle January  
Check TSFA website [www.tsfa.org](http://www.tsfa.org) for updated information
- \$100 Testing Fee,  
if not receiving scholarship by application deadline
- Must pass 100 question written exam: true/false, short answer, multiple choice, fill in the blank
- Need #2 pencil
- Must pass judging criteria for symmetrical design and boutonniere
- Test Dates and Locations: to be announced each year  
Check TSFA website [www.tsfa.org](http://www.tsfa.org)

# Additional Testing Information

- Students will be provided with design bowl, 1/3 brick wet floral foam, anchor tape, floral wire, floral tape, and fresh product for hands on design
- Students should bring knives, stem cutters/shears, and wire cutters. There will be **no** tools provided
- Written test and design portion will be timed one hour for each section (written test and hands on)
- Re-testing is available for students who do not pass either test or do not pass one part (written or design)
- Date, place, time: to be announced.  
Check TSFA website: [www.tsfa.org](http://www.tsfa.org)
- \$35.00 Re-testing fee

# Symmetrical Triangle Arrangement

- 9 stems of carnations provided
  - 10 stems of leather provided
  - 7-10 florets of static – approximately 3 stems provided
  - There will be no extra product provided
- Students MUST be careful with product
- Broken stems will not be replaced, may wire if needed
- Will not count off for inferior product - judged on stem placement only
- Strict guidelines and procedures



# A Completed Arrangement

- Completed arrangement with flowers, foliage and filler





# Required Materials For Arrangement

- 9 Carnations
- 1/3 bunch Statice
- 10 stems Leather Leaf Fern
- Container, Floral Foam and Anchor Tape
- #21 or #22 wire
- Necessary Tools:  
Wire Cutters, Clippers,  
and Knife...Band Aids  
(There will be **no tools  
provided**)



Front View

## Prepare Container for Design

- 1/3 block wet floral foam
- 2 pieces 1/4" anchor tape enough to secure oasis into bowl
- Slice off front corners of floral foam for better insertion of stems into front corner area. (Suggestion only)

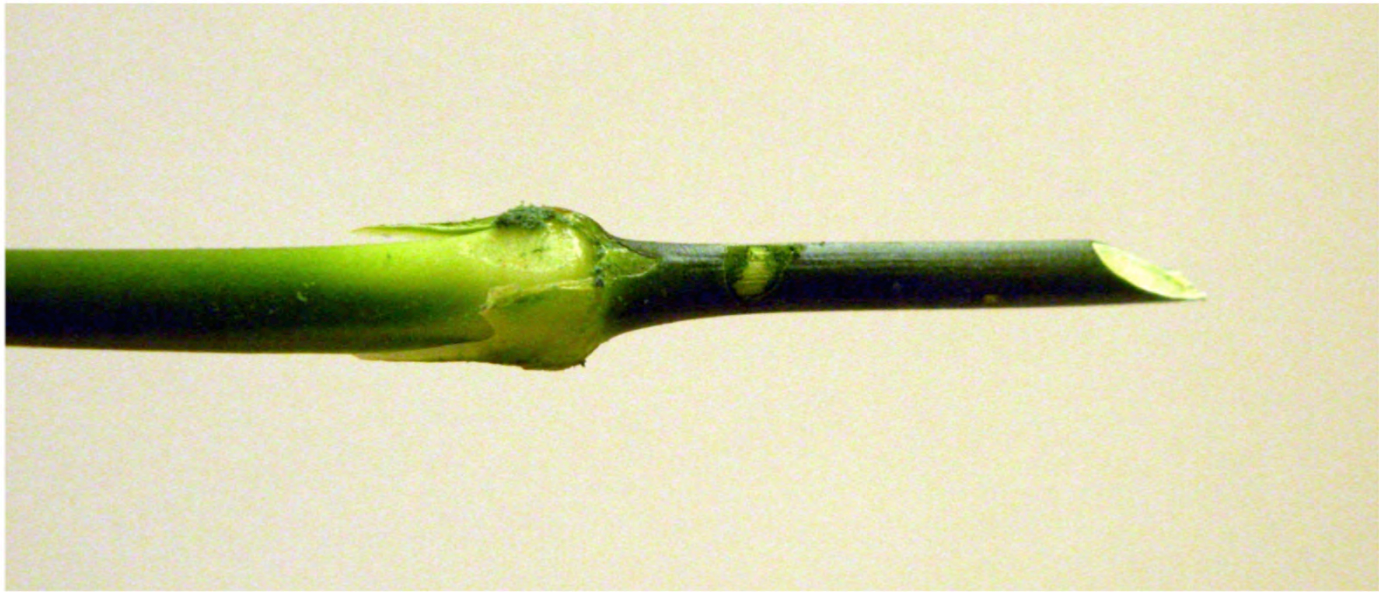


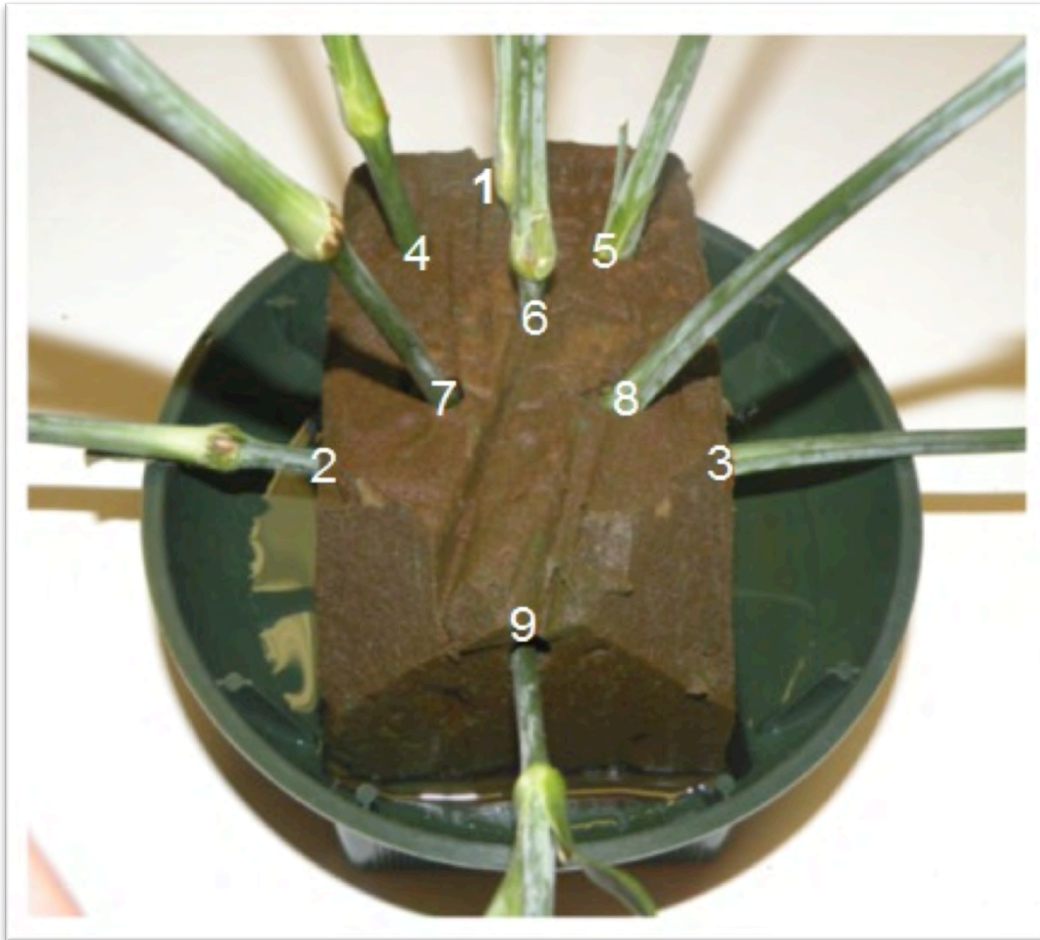
# Insert Carnations

- Cut stems at an angle
- Stems must be secure in floral foam below water line
- Should be no re-insertions
- Must develop symmetrical triangle
- Carefully measure before cutting stems
- Develop skeleton of design in steps 1-9
- May fluff tight or non round carnations before inserting into floral foam
- Filler flowers to be inserted between carnations, placing them high and low to create depth

# Cutting Stems For Insertion

Stems should be cut with a knife  
at an approximate 45 degree angle,  
immediately prior to stem insertion into the floral foam

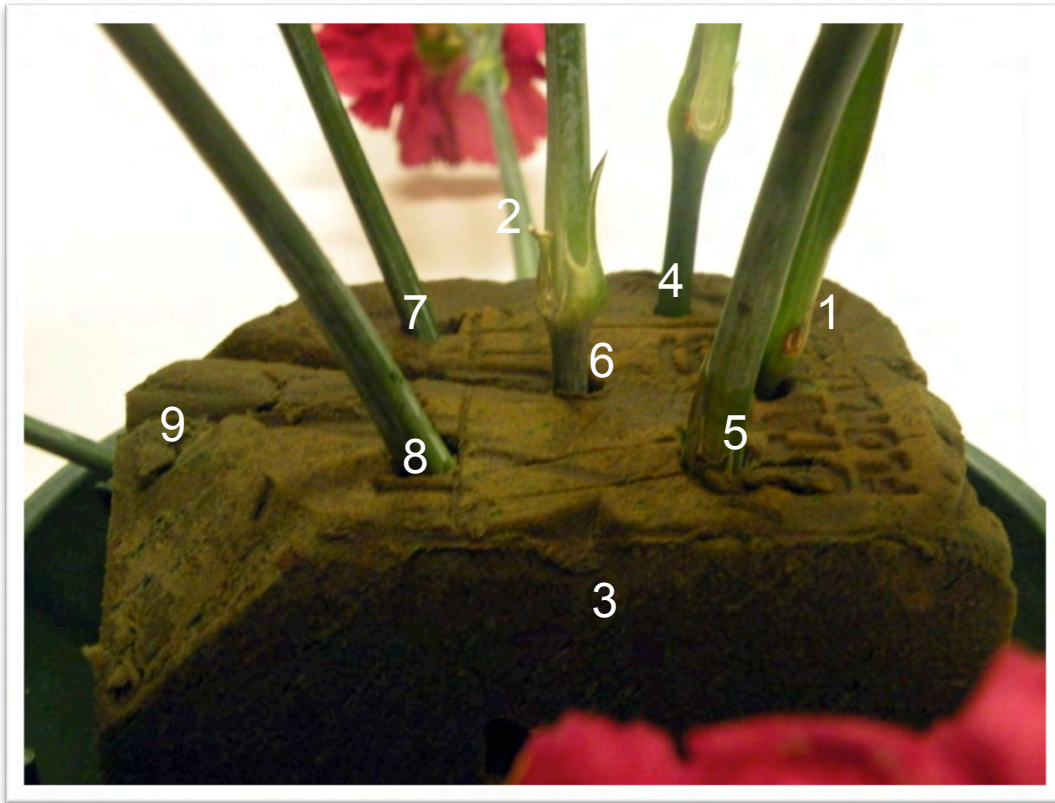




## 9 Stem Insertions Into The Floral Foam

- Placement of stems to form the Symmetrical Triangle Skeleton

Front View  
Floral Foam with Insertions



## 9 Stem Insertions (Side View)

- Placement of stems into lengthwise floral foam creating a Symmetrical Triangle Skeleton

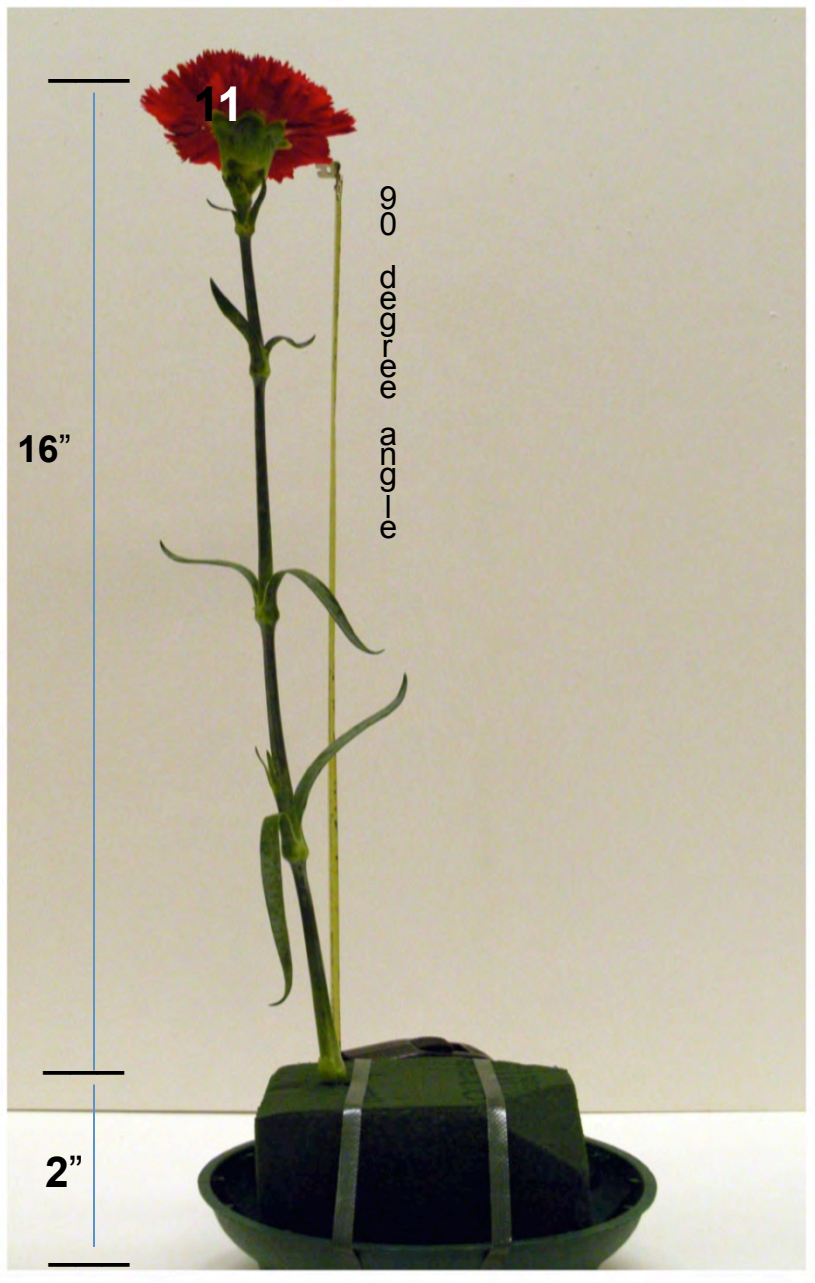
Side View  
Lengthwise Floral Foam  
with Insertions



Front View

**Overview:**  
Placement of  
skeletal stems  
for Symmetrical  
Triangle  
Arrangement



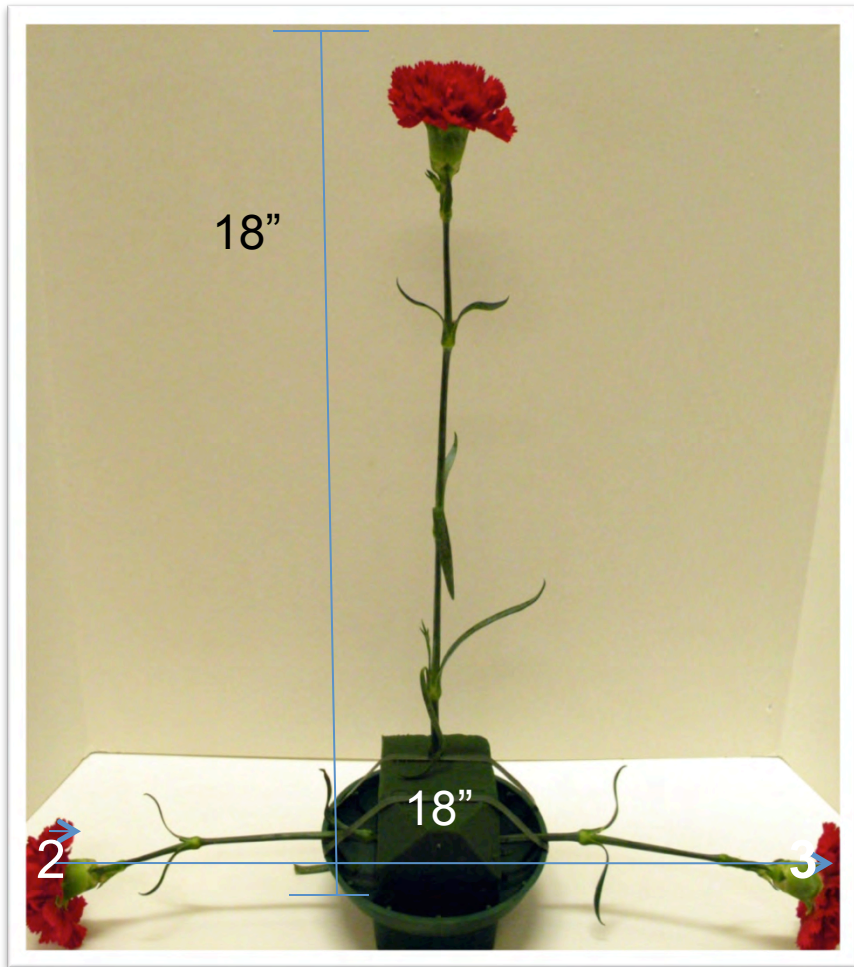


Side View

# Beginning Insertions

- The first stem (#1) will be approximately **18" tall** and will be inserted toward the back of the foam, using the lengthwise direction of the of the foam
- Insert the stem approximately 2" into the foam as upright as possible with **no more than a 95 degree angle**
- Note: 90 degree angle to use as a guide (The stem should lay no further back than shown in example)





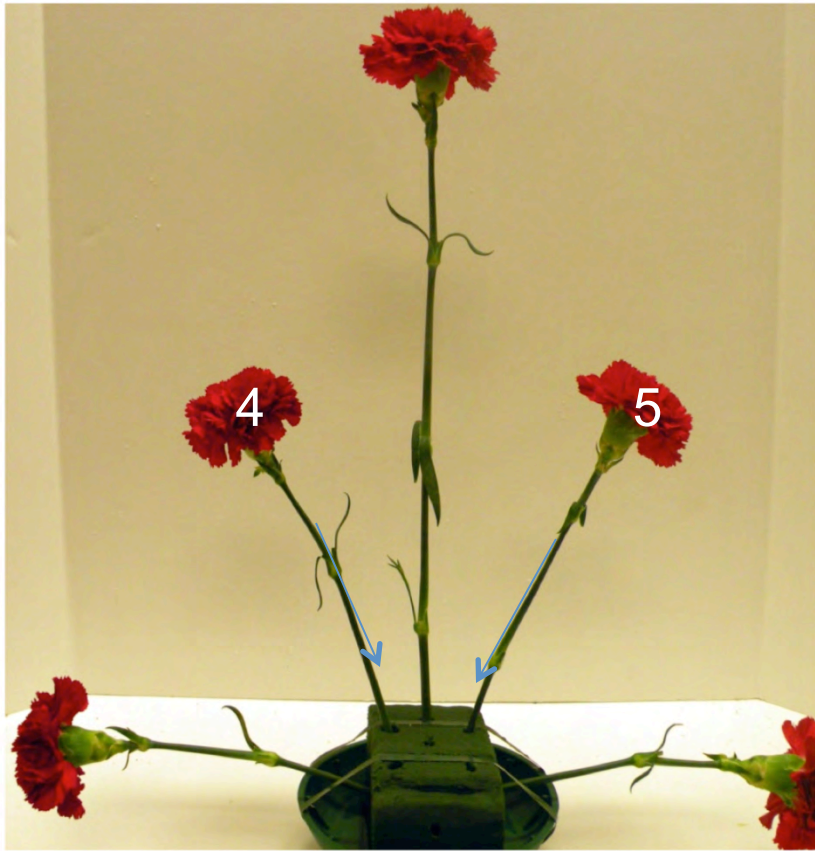
Total width is approximately 18"

## Insertion of the #2 and #3 Stems

- The combination width of the two stems will be approximately **18 inches**.
- Insert the stems half way between the length of the oasis in front of the vertical stem.
- You are creating depth and space within the arrangement by placement of these insertions.

## Insertions of #4 and #5 Stems

- Insert #4 and #5 in front of the line of #1 stem and behind the line of the #2 & #3 stems.
- The stems will be inserted toward the focal point/area and will lean slightly back.
- The stems will also be inserted closer toward the center of the floral foam.



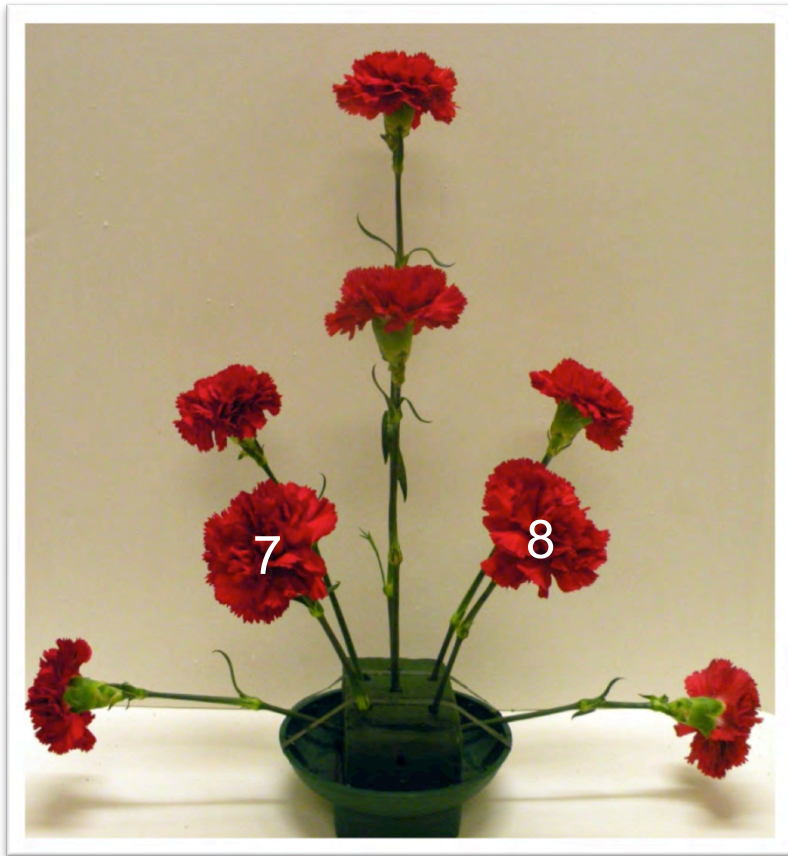
Front View



Front View

## Insertion of #6 Stem

- The second vertical stem, #6, is placed directly in front of the #1 stem



Front View

## Insertions of the #7 & #8 Stems

- The #7 and #8 stems are placed in front and toward the center of #4 and #5 stems.
- The stems are inserted in a direct line toward the focal point/area creating a V shape from #4 and #5 insertions





## Insertion of #9 Stem

- This stem is placed in front of #1 and #6 stems near (but not directly on) the lip of the container.
- This insertion defines the focal point/area of the arrangement. All stems (flowers, foliage and filler) will **radiate** from this point.
- Stems become shorter and tighter, as they near the focal point/area

Front View of Skeletal Symmetrical Triangle Arrangement

# Side View of Skeletal Symmetrical Triangle Arrangement



Side View





Enter from right side toward focal point



Enter from left side toward focal point



Enter from front center toward focal point

# Inserting Foliage

*You may add filler or foliage as the next step*

## If adding foliage first:

- Begin adding Leather Leaf in the same manner you inserted your flowers
- Foliage should cover the stems and floral foam
- When you trim the length of a stem, save the excess to be used to fill in, where needed
- A stem must be inserted at least 1" - 2" deep into the oasis, in order to take up water

# Insert Leather Leaf Fern

- Follow same insertion pattern as carnations
- Leather should support carnation stems
- Insert leather closely behind carnations
- Keep greenery wings for filler pieces, i.e. front spaces and to fill gaps and cover foam
- No anchor tape should be visible
- No floral foam should be showing
- Do not cut foliage into tiny pieces and insert into floral foam

# Inserting Foliage

- Photo shows side view of the symmetrical triangle and the foliage which shadows the carnation stems



Side View with First Insertions of Foliage



Purple Statice

## Filler

- Statice is a filler flower with multiple breaks on each stem.
- Each bloom/floret on the stem, may face a different direction.
- When designing with statice, you will need to separate the breaks so that you are using the blooms/florets in the correct direction. They **must** follow the lines within the arrangement.

# Insert Filler

- Should be placed deeper than carnations to fill in empty spaces
  - If using directional fillers, they should radiate out of design
  - Insert filler securely into floral foam
- Do not over fill design with filler; graders will count off for this; must consider price points of design, do not have to use all filler material provided





- \* Filler should be placed in after the foliage

## Directional Placement of Filler

- Static blooms/florets **will radiate** from the focal area with the tip of the bloom pointing outward. Each stem may have multiple directions of florets on a stem.

You

separate and use so that each radiates correctly.



## Side and Front Views of Symmetrical Triangle Arrangement



Side View



Front View

# Back View of Symmetrical Triangle Arrangement



Back View of Completed  
Arrangement



## The Completed Arrangement

- Completed arrangement with flowers, foliage and filler
- The photo shows depth created by the filler and the emphasis of the focal point created by bringing some of the filler and foliage in tighter/ shorter toward the #9 carnation





# Top View Of Finished Arrangement

# Design Conclusions

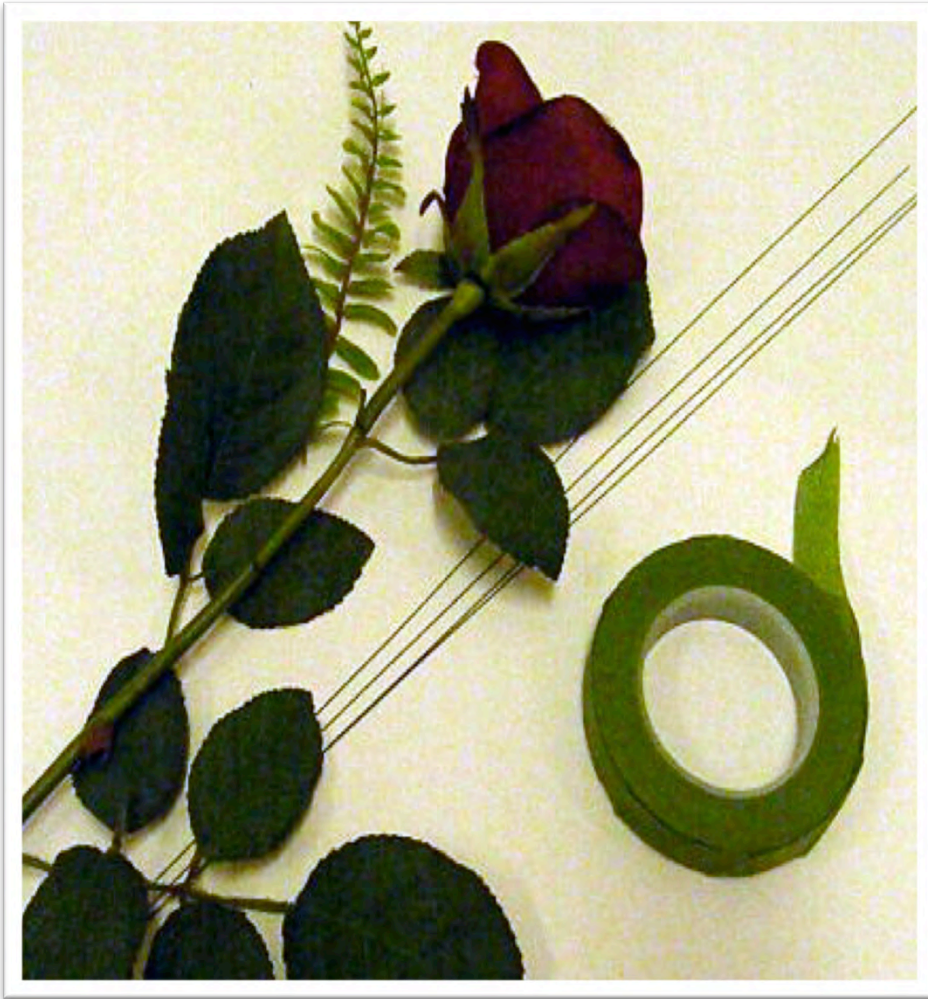
- Design will be judged on stem placement, NOT product quality
- Smaller blooms placed on outside edges of design and larger blooms to inside/interior of arrangement for depth and focal
- DO NOT make design short and dense. Cannot determine space and proportion within arrangement. Arrangement should be approximately 18" tall and approximately 18" wide. With this height and width, space will be created within the arrangement.
- Mass flowers (carnations) MUST NOT touch each other.
- Graders will not count off for broken carnation stems that have been re-wired together and taped correctly. Repair broken stems/carnations as needed

# Rose Boutonniere





# Required Materials For Boutonniere



- Small Rose head (50 cm) appropriate for boutonniere (ie Charlotte Red Rose)
- Foliage – Small piece of Leather Leaf Fern
- #28 wire or #26 wire
- Floral Tape



## Boutonniere Stem Length

- Stem length for a rose boutonniere should be **proportionate** to the head size *approximately 1 1/2" to 2 1/2"*



## Inserting Wire

- Use  $\frac{1}{2}$  length of a #28 or #26 wire, pierce through the receptacle of the rose





## Inserting Second Wire

- Using a second #28 or #26 wire, cross pierce the receptacle slightly lower than the first insertion

Note: using a #26 wire will make the boutonniere heavier and the stem less easy to pierce with a boutonniere pin

- See example pictures for cross insertions



# Securing Wires

- In order to keep the wire parallel to the stem and prevent spiraling around the stem of the rose, you may want to floral tape around the lower portion of the stem to hold the wire straight and parallel to the stem, before completing the taping of the entire stem.

Note: (If you have a torn or broken sepal, rotate it to the back side of the rose head. **DO NOT REMOVE.** If more than one sepal is bad, you may trim or re-shape, but do not trim all sepals).





# Foliage

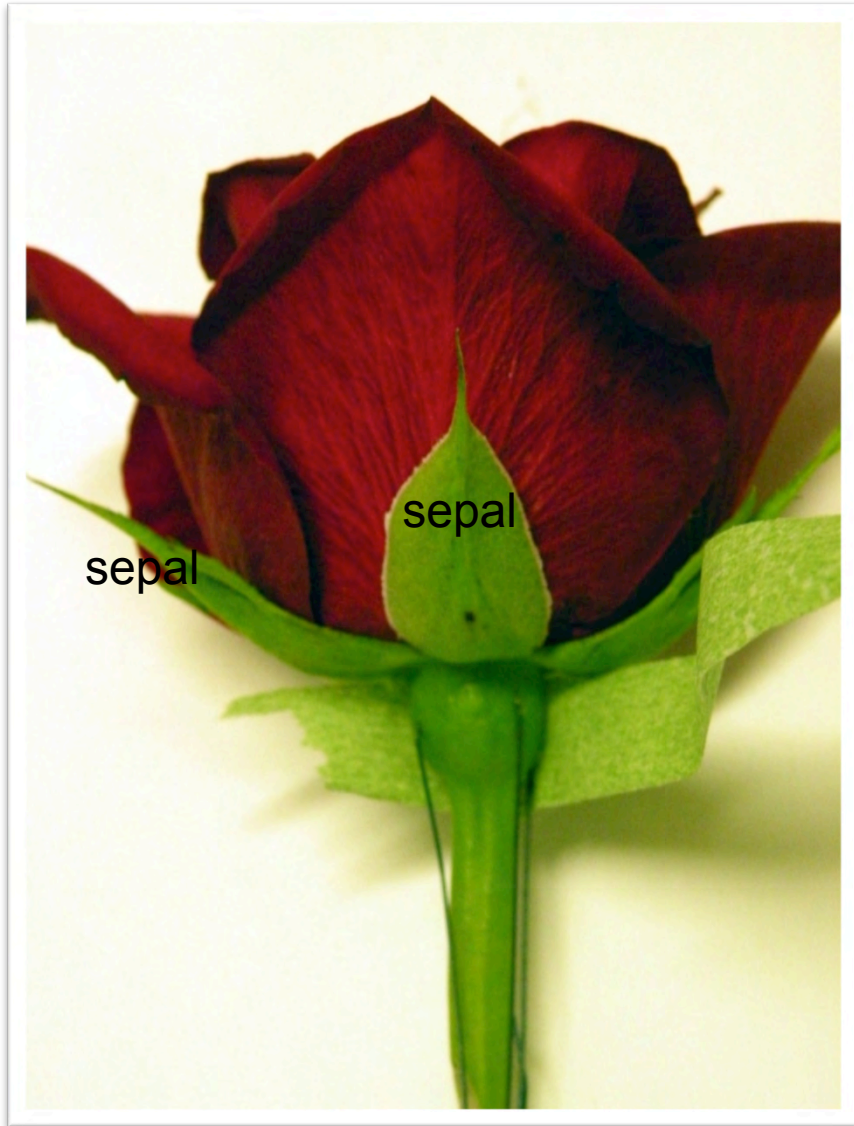
- Choose a tip from the Leather Leaf Fern that is **proportionate** to the size of the rose head. Foliage is an accent only and should not over power the design.



## ★ OPTIONAL: WIRING LEATHER LEAF FERN

It is *not necessary* to wire your foliage

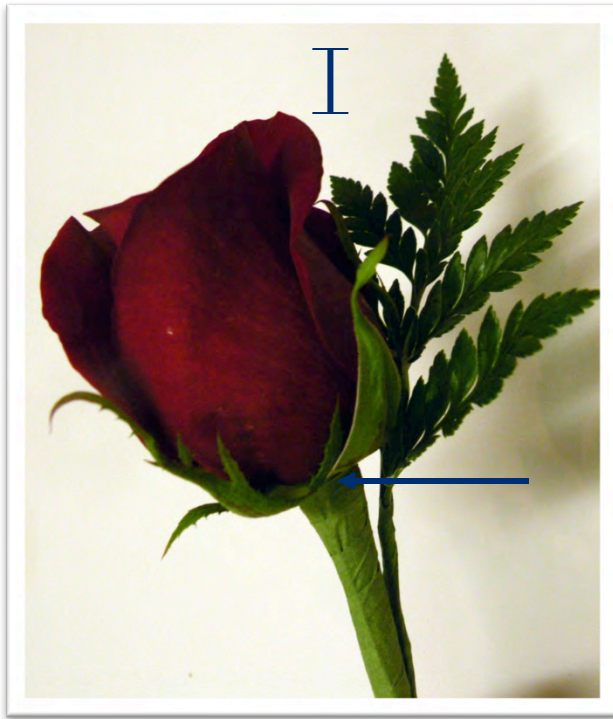
- However, *If you choose to wire* the Leather Leaf Fern, create a hairpin of ½ length #28 or #26 wire
- Thread through the two lower fronds and pull the wire straight down parallel to the stem.
- Tape partially down the rose stem to prevent the leather leaf stem from spiraling around the stem and then tape over the entire rose stem.
- \* Leather Leaf is very delicate and easy to break, again, wiring is only a choice!



## Tape Wired Rose Stem

- If sepals are hanging down, do not remove, simply move aside
- Tape around receptacle with floral tape, being careful to cover all insertion holes and pulled tight to top of stem
- Tape should be pulled tight and smooth all along stem
- No curled (pig tail) stems, please!
- Be sure there are no barbs or pieces of wire showing along the stem or at the bottom of the stem

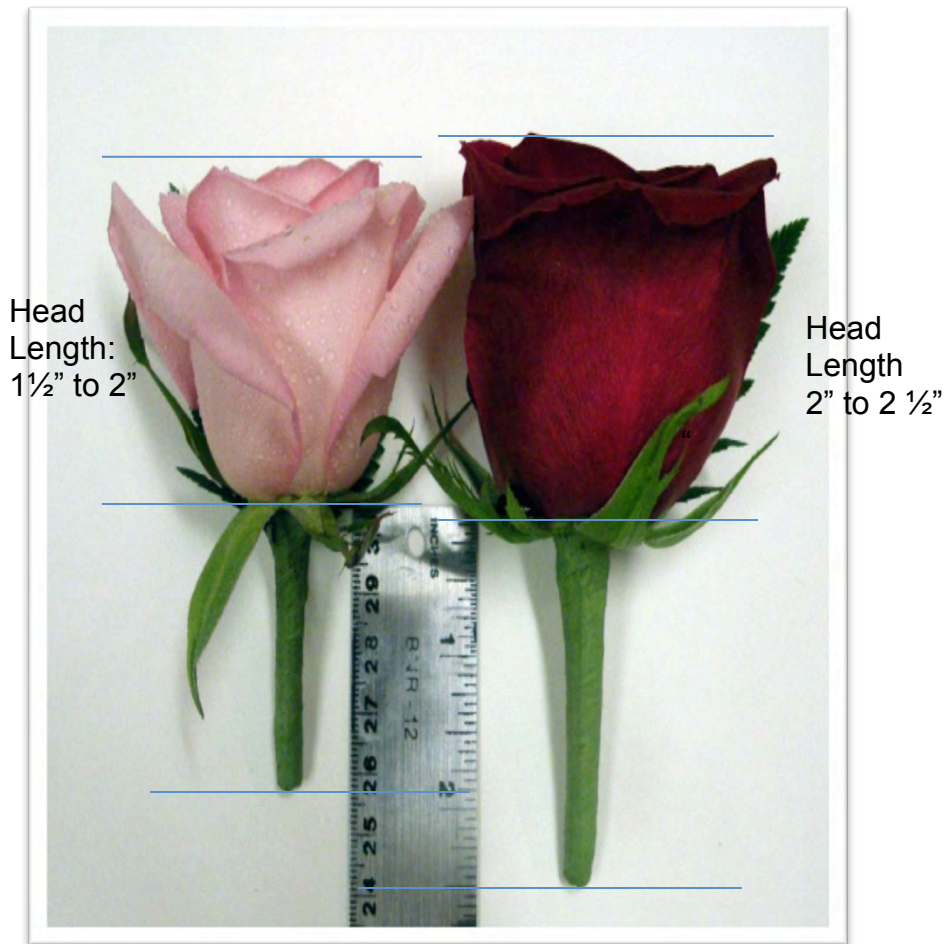




Should you choose to use  
Leather Leaf Fern  
for your boutonniere:

## Tape Rose and Foliage Together

- Lay Leather Leaf Fern so that the lower end of the fronds fit close to the bottom of the rose head.
- The tip of the leather leaf should be just slightly above the head of the rose, within a range of 1-2 inches, maximum, in *proportion and scale* to the size of the rose head.
- **Shave leather leaf stem half way down the stem length of the rose and then tape stem and foliage together.** This prevents the stem from becoming so thick with tape!



## The Stem Length for A Rose Boutonniere

### Reminder:

The length of the stem of your boutonniere is proportionate to the head size of the rose.

The smaller the head size of the rose, the shorter the stem.

The larger the head size of the rose, the longer the stem.

★ **Remember:** stem length is proportionate to head size!



# Completed Rose Boutonniere





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