

The Giving Garden Volunteers Guide

Guide for creating 4 bouquets (£25)

Step 1 is finding the flowers that will be the bulk of the bouquet:

Type: We have found that Chrysanthemums do this perfectly, and for a great price.

Cost: Expect to pay around £3 for a bunch.

Quantity: We'd recommend 5 'bulk'ers' to divide between the bouquets.



Step 2 is finding your 'showstoppers':

Type: Depending on what's available these could be Lilies, Alstroemeria, Sunflowers.

Cost: Lilies £3-£4. Alstroemeria £2.25. Sunflowers £4-£5.

Quantity: You should now have £15 left of your budget, so go wild and see how many flowers you can buy!



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Step 3 is prep:

- Remove the flowers from their plastic wrapping, and put the 4 largest wrappers to one side (along with the white elastic bands) as you'll need these later. It's no one's favourite job but the sticky labels will need to be removed too, sorry.
- Remove 2/3rds of the stem leaves, leaving some greenery still at the top.
- Separate out your flowers into piles of 4 as shown below (this helps with bouquet assembly).



Step 4 is assembly:

- Grab a pile from each flower type and put them together. Making sure your 'showstoppers' sit a bit above the rest.
- Take the white elastic band you put to one side earlier and slide it up the bottom of the stems to help keep the bouquet in place.
- Trim your stems at a rough 45 degree angle and to a reasonable height. (The taller they are the easier they can be knocked over).



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Final step (I promise):

- Slot your beautiful bouquets into the plastic wrapping you kept to one side. You may need to adjust the wrapping size slightly. Either by trimming some length off the bottom, or reducing the wrapping diameter by folding a section and sellotaping in place.
- If you have any plant food sachets, place them inside your bouquet so they don't get lost.
- Don't worry about your wrapping being perfect, the flowers are the main event, and they will be put into a vase anyway.



Hints & Tips

- Our favourite place to buy flowers from is Aldi, specifically the one on the A6 near Asda. Most of the time they have everything we need.
- Aldi do a flower/sticker check at 2:30-3:30pm, so if you head there just after 3:30pm you will get a great selection to choose from (and maybe some discounted ones too)
- Morrisons and Asda come in a close second for us.