

Tip #1:

Transport the flowers in your car with the air conditioning on.

Riding in a car is stressful on flowers. The cooler you keep them, the better they will handle the trip. Do not let your flowers sit in a parked car for any length of time. Even on a cool day, the sun will heat up your car and greatly diminish the quality of the flowers if they are left to sit for very long.

Tip #2:

Make sure they have plenty of water at all times.

Flowers drink a lot of water! It is not uncommon for a large flower arrangement to suck up all the water in a vase within a day or two. Keep plenty of water in vases and buckets at all times to ensure the flowers do not dry out and wilt. Flowers are also highly susceptible to bacteria that builds up as stems sit in the water.

Tip #3:

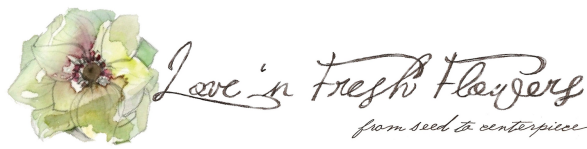
For bulk flowers, trim at least a half inch of stem off before you put them in a vase.

By cutting the stems just before placing them in the vase, you expose fresh tissue that can suck up water much more efficiently so your flowers will be super perky and better able to withstand the stress of being transported around.

Tip #4:

Keep your flowers away from heat and bright light.

Sometimes people think they should set their vase of flowers in a sunny windowsill since that is where a plant would be happiest. However, cut flowers are actually the opposite of potted plants. They are at their peak of perfection. Sun and heat will only encourage them to “mature” and thus quicken their demise. Instead, keep your cut flowers in a cool dark spot so they look their very best on the big day. A cool basement or a guest bedroom with the blinds drawn and the air conditioner running are your best bets.



Tip #5:

Put small personal flowers (corsages, boutonnieres, hair flowers) in the fridge.

These small personal designs that are not in water need to be stored in the fridge so they last longer. However, do not allow them to touch the sides of the fridge as the cold surface can "burn" flowers and turn them brown.

Tip #6:

Do NOT put your bridal bouquet or other bouquets in the fridge.

Any flowers that come to you in water already, particular the bridal bouquet, should NOT be put in the fridge. Your flowers have just been picked from our farm and are super fresh. With their stems in water, they'll last for many days without being refrigerated. In fact, we discourage putting these into a fridge because they are often too big for a typical refrigerator and trying to fit them in there can damage the flowers and any flower that touches the side of the fridge will turn brown from getting too cold. So, better safe than sorry...don't put flowers that are in water in the fridge.

Tip #7:

Put your flowers out at the reception as late as possible.

Flowers should be kept in the cool and dark storage spot until the last minute, especially if you are having an outdoor wedding in the summer. When it's really hot out, even super fresh flowers in a vase of water will wilt (if you're sweating, so are your flowers!).

Tip #8:

Use sharp scissors when cutting.

If you use dull old scissors or snips to trim your flowers, you are often smashing, and thus damaging, the tissue/cells at the end of the stem. Damaged cells cannot absorb water as effectively as healthy cells. Sharp scissors ensure a clean cut that leaves cells unharmed (except the poor few that inevitably get sliced). Have a good quality pair of scissors or floral snips handy when you get ready to make your centerpieces.