

Helpful Tips for the Floristry Competition

Why is a sketch of the design is important?

- Sketching is a powerful process to use to discover the best idea.
- It may take several sketches to find the best design.
- Sketching is about capturing the essence of the design.
- Sketching helps to define the shape and structure of the design.
- Sketching helps to record and develop an idea.
- Sketching helps concentrate on functionality.
- Sketching helps with visualisation.
- Sketching helps to explore design concepts.
- Sketching helps you focus and concentrate.
- Sketching helps develop hand to eye coordination.
- Sketching helps to communicate ideas to clients

Tips for making an over the arm presentation bouquet:

The over the arm presentation bouquet is a tied design held in the crook of the left arm. The design is generally an asymmetrical decorative style and it should have soft flowing natural movement.

The flower material is used on natural stems and tied in one binding point. If support wiring is necessary, it must be unobtrusive, and any wires used must terminate at the tying point.

Stems below the tying point should be in proportion with the flower material. As a guide two thirds flowers and the stems one third. If the stems are too long they impede movement and if too short the bouquet will not balance well.

The binding point must be neat and firmly tied and it stay in one place without travelling down the stems.

The binding point can be covered with a decorative bow of ribbon/wool or fabric etc., if desired.

The bouquet must be light in weight.

The finished bouquet should be easy to hold and balance in the crook of the arm without tipping in any direction.

All stems must be perfectly neat with any foliage below the tie point removed.

All flower and foliage must be immaculate, well-conditioned and with no blemishes.

All materials should appear to flow from the focal areas which should be elevated slightly.

To aid visual and actual balance larger more dominant forms and heavier blooms should be placed towards the body or dominant areas near the binding point.