

Savor The Season With Autumn Colors

(NAPSA)—Simple collections of fresh flowers can prolong the glowing light of autumn days indoors. Simmering reds, sultry oranges, claret purples—they are bountiful in the vast assortment of flowers available in fall.

Natural elements can bring botanical details to your design while simplifying the process of arranging. Criss-cross branches of fall leaves and create a structure to hold stems of tall, showy blossoms. Place gravel or small pebbles in glass vases to secure stems and enhance the natural look.

This year, don't let autumn steal away before you've given it a proper greeting. This simple decorative arrangement can be used as a housewarming gift or to complement your own decor.

For more ideas about how to use flowers in your home, visit www.flowerpossibilities.com.

HARVEST COLORS

- 1 8-inch ceramic bowl
 - 3 oranges and/or miniature pumpkins (white or orange)
 - 8 stems white freesia
 - 5 stems orange miniature spray roses
 - 4 stems yellow stock
 - 5 stems hypericum berries
 - 1 large stem green hydrangeas
 - 3 wood picks
 - 2 to 3 bricks floral foam
 - Floral preservative
 - Knife
 - Floral clippers
1. Soak the floral foam in



Autumn rides in on the coattails of summer, then slips away while our heads are turned.

water that has been treated with floral preservative for at least 30 minutes.

2. Cut the foam to fit the interior of the container. With the knife, shape the foam so it is domed—the center should be higher than the sides.

3. Insert one wood pick (or cut shish kabob skewers into 3-inch lengths) into each orange or miniature pumpkin. Insert them into the floral foam, scattering them evenly.

4. Begin inserting flowers around each orange or pumpkin. All flowers are cut short to approximately 4 to 5 inches in length. Think of the arrangement in pieces, each piece is built around each orange or pumpkin.

Note: Cut the leggy tops off the stock and just use their meaty full blossoms. Use sprigs cut from the one hydrangea blossom throughout the arrangement.