

# Flowers Alive With Possibilities



## Flowers: An Easy, Inexpensive Way To Decorate

(NAPSA)—A colorful way to chase away bad weather blues is with the bright hues of cut flowers.

Dainty spray roses and mini-carnations make great tea cup arrangements for a lunch with friends. Country baskets of tulips, carnations and alstroemeria bring a burst of brilliance into the house. For a dramatic show, place a few stems of flowering branches with spring flowers in a vase.

Carefully consider the container. Watering cans, galvanized metal flower buckets, rustic baskets and terra cotta pots can make you feel like spring at any time. Make a grid across the mouth of the container with floral tape to hold the flowers in place.

You can try this arrangement by floral designer Jill Slater.

You will need:

**Wide mouthed container,  
about 8 inches in diameter  
18 stems white standard  
carnations**

**18 stems white iris  
12 rubberbands**

**floral clippers  
scissors**

**floral food/preservative  
one-half inch wide floral tape**

**Place four strips of tape, parallel to each other, across the top of the container. Run four more strips of tape, perpendicular to the first four. Fill the container with water treated with floral food/preservative. Cut all flower stems to about seven inches long. Remove all leaves from the stems. Use**



**Be a blooming genius: Decorate your home with flowers all year long.**

**three stems of the same kind of flower to make a small bouquet in your hand. Keep the flower heads at the same height. Place a rubber band around the stems, just below the blooms. Do this with all the flowers, creating six bunches of carnations and six bunches of irises. Cut two bunches of carnations to about 5.5 inches long. Place these bunches in the center of the container. Cut the other four bunches of carnations to about 4.5 inches long. Insert them at the corners of the container. Fill in the remaining grid openings with the six bunches of irises.**

Visit [www.flowerpossibilities.com](http://www.flowerpossibilities.com) for more flower “recipes” and “ideas.” For a free brochure on decorating with flowers, write to the Flower Promotion Organization, P.O. Box 16, Ovid, MI 48866-0016.