

# EPSOM GARDEN SOCIETY



## 'HAVE A GO AT A SHOW' FLOWER ARRANGING CRIB SHEET

### Preparation

1. Read the Show Schedule, not only the Class Titles but also the Show Regulations and Hints For Exhibitors - Flower Arrangement section.
2. Choose a Class Title that appeals to you, then research ideas on how you wish to interpret this title. Consulting appropriate books/magazines, dictionary, websites etc. may be helpful.
3. Having chosen a title, and a design, decide what flowers and foliage to use.
4. Collect your flowers (ordering well ahead if necessary) on the Thursday before a show so that they can be conditioned in fresh water overnight for arranging ideally on the day before the show. Refer to NAFAS Instruction Leaflet No.2 for further guidance on conditioning.
5. When transporting a finished arrangement to a show take care to protect it from damage en route. (Some experienced arrangers prefer to assemble their exhibits on the morning of the show at the show venue).

### Design

1. When planning an arrangement be aware of the principles of design – these are **Balance, Proportion, Scale, Rhythm, Contrast, Dominance and Harmony**.
2. You may find the NAFAS Illustrated Booklet of Basic Designs for Flower Arranging and other books on design helpful for providing inspiration.

### Presentation

1. See advice in the Show Schedule.
2. Be aware that judges look for artistic merit, interpretation, practical merit, harmony and creativity/originality.
3. Make sure flowers and foliage in your exhibit are in perfect condition.
4. Look at your exhibit from a distance to obtain an overall impression.
5. Ensure plant material predominates over all other components.
6. Make sure you leave the space around your exhibit clean and tidy.
7. When you have paid your entry fee, leave your name card on table beside your exhibit but turned over so that your name is not visible to the judge.
8. Leave the show venue before the judge arrives at 11 am.