

## Digging Deep-Gardening with Cynthia Brian Bouquets for the Big Day!



The bride and bridesmaids with the individualized bouquets they created at the Flower Power party. Flowers included stargazer lilies, liliium speciosum, purple sage, lavender, gardenias, roses, alstroemeria, narcissus, freesia, grape leaves, razor grass, flax, and a grape bunch ornament.

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### WEDDING DAY

1. An hour before the ceremony, remove the bouquets from the ice buckets, cut off the bottom stems evenly on each of the bouquets. Add the final ribbons, bows, and bangles. Bouquets no longer need to be in water or ice.
2. Pin the corsages and boutonnieres on the left side of each recipient, right over the heart. (For my daughter's wedding, all the women in the bridal families, including grandmothers, mother of the groom, and myself carried small, simple bouquets instead of wearing a corsage. We all liked this approach better than the traditional cumbersome corsage.)
3. Distribute your bouquets to the bride and bridesmaids with big hugs.
4. Extra Tip: I always make at least three or four extra corsages and boutonnieres and two extra bouquets as accidents do happen. In addition, I create a bouquet for the bride to throw so that she can preserve the original, if she chooses. You can also make wreaths, braids, headpieces, and other creations with left over flowers to add to the décor.

Voila! Take a bow! You've done it yourself.

All of this takes time, patience, confidence, energy, creativity, and ultra organization. Before you embark on this DIY project, make sure you understand the obligations of this enterprise. You don't want to be frazzled for the wedding day itself. Now that you know the work, time, and effort that generating glorious and original floral creations entails, you won't suffer sticker shock at the price tag of purchased bodacious bouquets. If after a practice run, you realize that fabricating floral masterpieces isn't your forte, a fabulous florist is just a phone call away.

For assistance in learning this craft, I do offer personal consultations as well as classes and workshops on the Art of Flower Power. Email me at [Cynthia@God-dessGardener.com](mailto:Cynthia@God-dessGardener.com).

Wishing you the most beautiful wedding ever! Enjoy every second of this momentous once-in-a-lifetime event.

Happy gardening and happy growing.



A pale pink and white peony with a sprig of fern makes a beautiful corsage.



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### CALL AN ARBORIST

The most common reason a tree owner calls an arborist is concern that something is wrong with a tree. It may be that some of the leaves are discolored, a branch has died, or perhaps the entire tree has been dropping leaves. Sometimes the cause of the concern is a minor problem that is easily explained and corrected. Other times the problem is more complex-with several underlining causes and a remedy that requires treatments extending over several years. Unfortunately, there are instances in which the problem has gone undetected for so long that the tree cannot be helped, and the only option is removal. If an arborist had been called earlier, perhaps the tree could have been saved.

So don't wait until it's too late, have a complete inspection by a Certified Arborist at Advance Tree Service and Landscaping.

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