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Decorating With Flowers: Classic And Contemporary Arrangements



Synopsis

The best of Paula Pryke's classic and contemporary floral arrangements in an accessible format to inspire novice and expert alike. Paula Pryke, Britain's acclaimed master floral designer and author of numerous bestselling books, is unsurpassed in creating floral objets d'art. Essentially a form of interior decoration or stage setting, Pryke's floral designs are the key to beautifying the home, creating interior moods, and setting the tone for entertaining, parties, and memorable events throughout the year. Included are her signature clean, contemporary designs as well as romantic, old-fashioned bouquets with a modern sense of color and form. Pryke's floral artistry goes beyond the traditional arrangement-in-a-vase—her signature concepts include using nontraditional containers, unexpected accessories (e.g., candles or fruit), combining unusual colors, textures, and architectural forms, as well as other decorative touches such as wreaths, garlands, and even decorative dog collars. Packed with ideas, skills, and techniques, this book explores the latest trends in floral design for any season and encourages readers to let their creativity and personal style flow with step-by-step instructions. Gorgeously illustrated, this compilation is an invaluable catalogue of ideas and inspirations.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Paula Pryke is widely considered to be one of the top floral designers in the U.K. and her design school in London attracts floral professionals from around the world who attend to learn from her. In *Decorating with Flowers*, her artistry is well displayed with gorgeous photography that clearly captures her expert use of color, shape and form. While I don't think *Decorating with Flowers* shows

forward movement in Pryke's style, the book is an excellent overview of the designer's work and, for those unfamiliar with her, a wonderful introduction to her innovative style. Pryke has a flair for using interesting containers and integrating materials not always seen but that are often readily available - and rarely outrageously priced. What really sets Pryke apart, though, is her expert use of color and her stunning combinations of flower shapes and textures. Both novice and seasoned designers will find inspiration here. What novice designers will not find in *Decorating with Flowers* is much in the way of "how-to". The chapter on techniques did not impress me and I would suggest learning the basic and more advanced design techniques elsewhere. (Years ago, I found taking some hands-on classes with a variety of projects and personal attention worked far better for me than trying to learn from books.) Then, while practicing and perfecting skills, I would suggest returning to *Decorating with Flowers* and letting it serve as a source of great arrangements to emulate. There are so many beautiful designs to choose from in its pages! Two additional notes:- A number of other books on flower arranging in my collection are quite large. I really like the more compact size of this volume. While the pages themselves might be smaller, the photos are large and crisply detailed.

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