
DIY Flower Bouquets with 100LayerCake

Chapter 1 - Introduction

Overview

(peppy music) - Hi, I'm Jillian. - And I'm Kristina, and we're with 100 Layer Cake. 100 Layer Cake is an online resource for wedding planning, party ideas, and DIY projects. One of our favorite projects and parts of any wedding or celebration are the florals. We've asked one of our favorite florists, Emily of Shotgun Floral Studio, to join us to show you how to make a few projects you can use for your next event or celebration. - Hi, I'm Emily, the owner of Shotgun Floral Studio, a floral and event design company here in the Bay area, and I'm here to talk about floral varieties, the way that they come together in composition, and the colors with florals as well. - When I got married seven years ago, I really didn't make florals a priority. That's something I truly regret. So I'm really excited to hear what Emily has to share with us regarding DIY bouquets, and I can't wait to dive in. - We'll start by learning how to process the flowers, and then choosing flowers by texture and variety, and showing you how to combine them within the bouquet, and then finally showing you how to wrap the bouquet and trim it as well. (whimsical music)

Chapter 2 - Materials

Materials

- You are going to be using a variety of flowers. When you are choosing your flowers, it's important to keep a couple things in mind, color palette being one of them, and texture and size being the next. So I like to have focal flowers that include larger varieties like dahlias, some accent flowers, such as the Queen Anne's lace, and textural flowers like this wonderful straw flower that's perfectly in season right now, and your greenery, which can be really, truly anything that you clip from your backyard. Today we have some bay and oak leaf. - I love the combination of this big, beautiful dahlia and the more rustic straw flower, and it's interesting you've chosen an open tulip, as opposed to a closed one that we normally see. - Absolutely, so, it's very important to take the life of the flower into consideration when using it within the bouquets and arrangements. This tulip is fairly open. The life of it probably won't last too long, but it looks much prettier within the bouquets, in my opinion. I love how all of these colors go together. We established pink as the color palette for this particular project, and I don't like to just have every single variety be in pink. I actually like to continue the color as you see it going along the arrangement. So, if you pop a little purple into there, or some orange, or some antique purple, it actually continues the palette much better, and your eye also continues over the arrangement in terms of textual elements and color. - Totally agree. - And this amount of flowers is about enough that you will need to create one bouquet, and it's also important to keep in mind that you can use a variety of flowers year round. So just keep the color, composition, and size in mind when creating the bouquet. In addition to the flowers, you will need a good set of shears, scissors to cut the ribbon, some smaller shears for some of the smaller product, rubber band to attach the bouquet together, floral tape. I have brown and white floral tape, and you can choose green floral tape as well. It's just going to be covered with ribbon. We also have floral pins and ribbon. I like to choose a variety of ribbon in color and texture, and I often times like to use an accent color as the ribbon, like a brighter pop.

Chapter 3 - Assemble Bouquets

Select and arrange flowers

- We're going to begin with a bouquet and we have some really beautiful flowers right here. And I'm super excited to just jump in and start building but Emily why don't you tell us how you like to start building and what the first step is. - Sure, so my approach to arranging is a picked from the garden type of look. I like to choose a variety of textures, colors, and elements when arranging the bouquet. And the first step is to actually make a sort of skeleton or cage with the greenery. - Do we need to do anything to the individual flowers before we start? - Exactly, so often times you will first get bunches of flowers that you will need to strip the leaves of so that the stems are actually fairly clean when you are ready to build your bouquet. I like to do that first. So all of my stems are ready so I can just build together. Cause actually you're holding the bouquet with one hand and adding with the other. - You don't want to mess up your creative flow. - Exactly. When you purchase your flowers there are going to be a couple parts of them that you actually might not want in the bouquet. So it's totally okay to strip the stems of the leaves, which I often do just with my hands. Sometimes you might want to use your shears but this is the way I do it. You can do it fairly quickly and just remove the pieces that you don't want showing in your bouquet. We have all of our flowers stripped so what we're going to do is grab a couple of the greenery pieces. And today we actually have. - [Christina] Oak leaf. - [Emily] And there's some bay leaf in there too Christina. - [Christina] Okay let me grab that. So this is not a culinary bay, right? This is more of an ornamental bay? - [Emily] Decorative. We start our bouquets with a framework of greenery. If some on your stems have extra pieces of greenery below where you're holding it. You can go ahead and take your clippers and take them off. It looks like yours are fairly clean Christina. - [Christina] Yeah mine are pretty good. - [Emily] So I'm just going to go ahead and take these off. And then what I like to do is actually put it as a cross in my fingers. Instead of having it really tight together, and this usually creates a tighter bouquet at the top. - [Christina] Got it. - [Emily] So because I like mine so loose I go ahead and arrange them starting with an X at the bottom. And if you need extra greenery go ahead and grab some. Sometimes I like to use two pieces, sometimes I use three pieces. - [Christina] Mine are pretty full so I think I'm just going leave these how they are. - [Emily] They are, they look perfect. - Don't you think? - Absolutely. - [Christina] Do you think I should even take one of these off? Well we can see how it goes. - [Emily] I think we'll see how it goes. - [Christina] Okay. - It's important, too, to notice if your stems are a little stiff you can actually use them as support for some of the looser flowers. You can go ahead and grab a larger piece of lupine. - Lu Pine, whatever. - Tomato, tomahto. - We can't figure out what it's called (laughs). - [Emily] So you can go ahead and use this as part of the structure in the front of the actual bouquet. - [Christina] Okay. - And great, you took off your leaves. Something I like to keep in mind is that you never actually see the back of the bouquet. - Yeah. - Typically so we don't really focus on the back of the bouquet. I look at it more as a painting from the front of the bouquet. So that's where most of our focus is going to be. So this larger structural piece, I like to put in the back and think of it as you're building it out from the front. So this piece is going to be there. And then the next consideration is the color and how it's going to continue with this piece. And the structure of the next piece as well. So as you're building, kind of keep those things in mind. For the next color, let's find something that continues with this color really well. So let's actually grab one of our garden roses. - [Christina] Think I'm going to have to grab one from you. I don't think I have any over here. Thanks, beautiful. - [Emily] So you can see how this color is going to be continued. And this rose actually acts as one of our focal pieces but the bouquets will actually have a larger focal piece, a smaller focal piece, and then pieces that I like to consider as accent pieces. - [Christina] Great. - [Emily] So if you have any extra stems that you

don't want on there. And it's important to take into consideration when someone's actually hold this that they don't want the. - [Christina] They don't want to be jabbed with it. - [Emily] Right, they definitely don't want to be jabbed but you don't want it to be too thick or uncomfortable for them to hold. - [Christina] Okay. - [Emily] So just keep that in mind as you're building. It's important to consider the size of the flower and also how you're holding it as your building it. So you can see here that I have my X still being continued. - [Christina] Okay. - [Emily] And what I do is I build flowers on to each part of the front and have the stems coming down to each side. I really like those loose looking stems, again like they were just thrown together from the garden. As you're building the piece from the front, also consider all of the flowers coming down and over and sort of rounding out in the front. So you can go ahead and grab some of this Queen Anne's Lace. So gorgeous right now on all the freeways of California right now (both laugh). - [Christina] I love this purple version. I feel like you usually see it it's kind of whitish. - [Emily] It looks really antiquy. My piece is particularly large, so I'm actually going to kind of put that in front. - [Christina] Okay. - [Emily] But I'm continuing with my X here. So this how I do it. You can just hold it with your thumb in the front. So let's go ahead and continue this pink color. Grab a darker pink color and if you have one, and if you don't you can go ahead and borrow some of mine. - [Christina] Okay I got it. - [Emily] And you can already start to see how when you put the colors together it really is starting to create the color story. So if you look at this right now you're like, that's a pink bouquet. We have our gradient of colors starting within this bouquet. So you put the pinks kind of next to each other, and then we'll continue with the oranges and some of the lighter colors to create a more complete color palette. - [Christina] Okay great. - [Emily] And I actually have an example of how you continue the gradient of color within this one. - [Christina] Yeah, that one's gorgeous. - [Emily] So you can see that I have the oranges on the bottom right-hand side and some of the lighter pinks towards the middle next to the Queen Anne's Lace that's on the right side. - Yeah I love the kind of ombre thing that ends up happening sometimes. I think you know one of our favorite bouquets that you've like ever made we've shown on our site. - Thank you! - It was like, so popular. so beautiful - I appreciate that. Yeah no, I feel like it's really, really important and one of those things that you'll just get better with with time. It's like noticing how the colors go together. Think about the shape of the flower and the color of the flower as well. Sometimes when you don't put colors that continue together, it can look like a polka dot bouquet. I don't know if you've ever seen that? - Yeah of course. - It's like a couple reds interspersed. I call those polka dot bouquets. - [Christina] Okay, yep. - And again, this is how I do it. And there's a variety of ways that you can do it. So if we continue taking into consideration varietals and the color, let's go ahead and grab a color that's going to move in sort of the more orangy, peachy direction. - [Christina] Okay, yep. - [Emily] And these beautiful strawflowers, again, one of my top, top three flowers. - [Christina] These are awesome (laughs). - I love them so much and I love them too because you can use them in a variety of ways and the color actually remains even after you've taken it out of water. So these are great flowers to dry. I love them in boutonnieres because the color will last all day and even into the weeks to come. - And it's nice because they don't actually require a lot of water to stay looking nice. - [Emily] Exactly. - [Christina] So you could make your boutonnieres ahead of time. - [Emily] so fun and they come in so many beautiful colors. For this peachy one, I'm going to go ahead and sort of put it in the middle of the bouquet. And let's continue the color. As you can see here and it's sort of moving over to the right-hand side. So to me this looks like the beginning of a painting. And you can add a lot more colors to make it look like a complete painting. With this Queen Anne's Lace, it's actually doing is becoming my focal flower in the front. And this rose is becoming your focal flower in the front. - [Christina] Yeah I actually.

Which I actually think is great. The bouquets do not need to be the same. In fact, the bouquets can be a little different. I suggest making them all a little different. It just makes it more fun and again, looks like they were just picked from the garden. - And this is like, as someone who doesn't normally make bouquets, this is definitely feeling a little bit awkward but just in the last few minutes it's become, as you've arranged thing around it it does become more comfortable. - As soon as we put the rubber band around it too. I'll show you how you can mess with some pieces to make it look exactly like you want it. And then we'll go ahead and put the tape on it. - [Christina] Cool, okay. - [Emily] Let's continue with this color, with this peach. And I love this yellow center in this strawflower. - Yeah so beautiful - Is it not so beautiful? - [Christina] It's totally beautiful. - [Emily] Okay, so these flowers have sort of become our focal flowers. And I'll mention too Christina, we can kind of take off these little guys who aren't looking so good. So we still want to make sure everything's looking super sharp. Because these are acting as our focal flowers, let's try and put in one of the Cafe au Lait dahlias. - [Christina] Yeah. - [Emily] Which are one of the most popular wedding flowers and are perfectly in season in summer and into fall. They are definitely one of my favorite as well. I will say that they don't last for too long out of water. - [Emily] But let's mess around with it and see if it works. - [Christina] I'm mean mine is so big, it's all, goodbye. - [Emily] And what you can always do is move pieces around a little bit. And let's go ahead and see how it looks in here. And if it doesn't look great, you can just remove it. Look at that huge dahlia! - I mean, - [Emily] It looks so amazing if didn't look okay - Did you know that they call them dinner plate when they get this big. - [Emily] Often times, yes. - [Christina] But it feels like, even though this guy is so huge, if I just sort of carefully nudge these up a little bit. - Absolutely - You know then it doesn't eclipse them quite so much. - [Emily] I love to mention too as we're going because I haven't yet, that it's important to take the plane of the arrangement into consideration too. So you don't want everything in one tight ball. At least that's how I do it. So as you're doing this and why I hold the arrangements in this way is so that you can actually push these stems up and adjust the plane on the arrangement as well. - [Christina] Oh I see, okay so you don't have to grab the flower head, you're actually going to push from the bottom. - [Emily] Exactly. - [Christina] That's probably a way better way to do it. - [Emily] Well the worst thing to do is to grab it by the head and have it break. And then you have to replace that one within the bouquet. When you're building it it's so close to you and it actually feels like the flowers might be really messy and out of place, but from far away, it looks amazing when they are on different planes. So as you can see this strawflower is coming out and this Queen Anne's Lace is actually tucked in a little bit. And what you can do is adjust the stems even more to make them even more on different planes and make it look like it was naturally thrown together. - [Christina] Okay so what do we think about this big dahlia? - [Emily] I think that dahlia is a little too big for the bouquet. - [Christina] Yeah, I mean gorgeous, but. - [Emily] Gorgeous but a little too big. It's definitely ... - [Christina] So move this to one side? - [Emily] Absolutely. I think grab that smaller one and see if that works for you. - [Christina] Okay, ah! - [Emily] Better! That looks so pretty! - That looks better right? - Yes, perfect. - Very good. - [Emily] So we'll go ahead and continue to move our color along the side. What we've done is we've kind of built the left side but we'll add a couple more things at the very end. And we're just completing the right side here. So I have a darker strawflower. Kind of an orange family that I'm going to go ahead and add to this side also. And even if yours isn't orange. Yep, just go ahead and keep adding the colors that continue together. It does not need to look anything like mine. In fact, if they are different, better. - [Christina] That idea is the space huh? - Absolutely - Okay. - [Emily] So I lowered these Gaillardia flowers that have these beautiful orange and yellow tips. If you see this by itself it might not seem

like your favorite flower. But when you actually add it into the bouquet the color continues perfectly and I think just adds that little bit that just makes it complete, to me. - [Christina] That's beautiful. - [Emily] We want to keep it a little wild. - [Christina] Apparently my tendency is to keep everything more organized. - [Emily] It's okay, that is a good thing. - [Christina] I mean, maybe. It looks better when it's a little wild for sure. That's why we're learning today. - [Emily] Absolutely. Sometimes, you might just want one item. So because this dahlia is our focal point we're just going to have one of them. If we had more, it would be a gigantic bouquet. Because the gaillardia are a bit smaller, you can go ahead and add two or even three if you have them. And again that's totally up to you. I like to have something that I like to call a rogue flower. So I have one, like totally sticking out of nowhere. And it's just one like, free flowin on the side! - [Christina] Can I pop it into the back? - [Emily] Absolutely, in fact, that's perfect. - [Christina] Okay, there's my rogue. - [Emily] There's your rogue and I have my rogue. And look how pretty these look together. And when we even add the third one in, this finished one, if these were in a bridesmaid's line they would look perfect together even though they're not the same. In fact, I love the variety, I absolutely love it. So let's add a very few more accent flowers. You have the blushing bride over there, which I'm obsessed with again, - You want one? - Sure I'll take one. These actually need to be stripped of their leaves which is important to do before hand. But since our hands are full, you can go ahead and try and do it with one hand. Don't get me wrong, it's hard to take off these leaves when your left hand has the bouquet in it. And I suggest not to put it down cause then you'll have to kind of start all over again. - [Christina] (laughs) okay. - [Emily] so we'll just take off a couple, if there are any. Just need to snip the end. And then lets add this blushing bride. I'm going to go ahead and put it to the side that has the most white or lighter colors. - [Christina] Yeah it's nice to have. - [Emily] I actually think that it's really beautiful next to the Cafe au Lait. Let's look at the two of these together. Right they look good in a row. - [Christina] Super cute. - [Emily] I like the variety. - [Christina] I can also see how more you did of these and you get into a flow. So your first one might take a little time, but then your second and third if you were making a bunch of them, would start to go a little faster. - [Emily] Bouquets are definitely challenging. It's taken me a couple years to be able to learn how to hold them properly. And then when you have six to eight bridesmaids, how long it's going to take you and things like that. So let's go ahead and assess how everything looks in the bouquet together. Make sure that pieces are on different planes. And that your focal flower is is the front. - [Christina] So I'm feeling like I could use something like right here. You know? - Definitely, let's kind of move the dahlia to the front a little bit. Or you could even put another one there. - [Christina] Well I have this pretty tulip that I could potentially ... - [Emily] Go ahead and do that. - Right in here right? - Absolutely. I love tulips because they have so much movement. And they can really add a lot. I'm not actually going to add one to mine. I think it's good - Yeah yours is looking - [Emily] I think it's good, I think it's going. - [Christina] I always add, I have like major issues editing. So I just want to keep adding and adding and adding forever. - [Emily] And that's okay. The bouquets can get large (laughs) and like to take it - It's definitely not small. - [Emily] And then take something away. And it's just perfect how you put the blushing bride on a different plane. Now it's sticking out and it's definitely going to draw your eye towards that item. - [Christina] Got it. - [Emily] So I think it's perfect. This is actually garlic, our little purple pieces. - [Christina] That could go maybe right here. - It could be great. What I really like to use these for because they have stiff stems. Are sort of in the back. - [Christina] Little guy in the back, yeah. - [Emily] And you can even do too, if you want. - Okay, will you pass me one? - Absolutely. - Thanks. - So this strawflower right here, has sort of the - Purple - Magenta, purpley tone. So what I want to do is to connect these two colors together -

Alright. - With your eye. So that when your eye is actually reading the arrangement or the bouquet, it continues from color to color. - [Christina] So I'm going to pop mine right over here cause my darker flowers are kind of on this side. - [Emily] That is absolutely perfect. - [Christina] Or I mean I could put it with that. - I'm going to put one more in the back here. And actually something that I should mention, is that you can go ahead and actually pop flowers that have thin stems through the middle if you want. So if you kind of loosen up your fingers, you can go ahead and even sort of pop that through. And just go ahead in wiggle that in. But as you can see here, I feel like my colors have continued. I'm going more towards the oranges on this side and the purples are all connecting right here and I love how I have some of my rogue flowers and how the greenery is still acting as a structure. And if you were to take this finished bouquet and hold it up to you. Like I mentioned, you have a back of it that you really don't need to pay attention to. - Okay. - [Emily] It looks super awesome. I think I'm just going to add one more piece down here to the bottom. - [Christina] Okay. - [Emily] With these dahlia leaves, you have to be particularly careful as well cause they bruise so easily. I'm going to add these to mine and I feel like mine is pretty close to being done. - [Christina] I think mine is pretty good. - I love yours. - I love yours. - Oh thank you. I'm just going to go ahead and adjust a couple more here by pushing up the stems on the bottom. I feel like we're fairly finished with these. - [Christina] Yeah that looks really good. - Really happy with the way that they're looking. Next step is to go ahead and rubber band the stems so that they all stick together. - Okay.

Secure bouquets and finish with ribbon

- The easiest way to secure the stems in the bouquet, once you're finished, is actually to put a rubber band around it. Which is one of my favorite tricks. - Cool. - [Expert] Go ahead and grab your shears. We're going to get all this done with a little trim. Something that's really important to keep in mind, too, is to have your stems be in proportion to the size of the arrangement. So I really dislike it when stems are super-long, or they're really tight together. And again you'll see, once we've put the rubber band around it, how it all comes together, and how the shape of the bouquet falls. So go ahead and just give it a trim. You can always trim more. - [Christina] Right. - [Expert] So trim less at first. - [Christina] You can't trim less. - [Expert] You can't trim less, but you can trim more. - [Christina] So are we looking at approximately the same height? The flowers and stems should be about the same height? - [Expert] Exactly. So as I have this right here, I feel that this is fairly similar to the actual size of the bouquet. Which is going to help when we put the rubber bands around it. So I'm going to hand you a rubber band here. This is my secret trick. Well, a lot of other people do it, too. But it's one of the best. When you have this style of bouquet that you're going for. So make sure that you find a fairly stiff stem. Or a couple of them, even. - [Christina] Oh, so you don't go around the whole thing at once. - [Expert] No. - [Christina] I should have listened. Right. Where's my stiff guy, back here? Okay? - [Expert] So if you have gone through a couple, go ahead and put it up as close to the base of the bouquet as you can. - [Christina] Okay. - [Expert] We'll have to be careful with these delicate cafe au lait petals, as well. So I have this rubber band around a couple of the stems. What you're going to do is you're going to wrap it around the entire stem base. - [Christina] Smart. - [Expert] Just like this. - [Christina] Okay. - [Expert] And then you're going to go around the same one, or go around a couple more. Just like that. Until it feels pretty tight. - [Christina] Okay. - The reason why I like this style so much, is because you can go ahead and put down your bouquet, and it's totally secure. - [Christina] Right, so to the novice, like me, it looks like once you get the rubber band around, you kind of need to do a little rearranging. - Exactly, which is

what you can do. So the rubber band has secured everything, but again you can go ahead and adjust stems with the rubber band on. Whereas tape holds everything in place, what I like to do is tape after I rubber band. Once you have the rubber band around it, hold it up to my body in front of a mirror. See how the orientation looks. - Great. - And again, you can adjust it. Sometimes I just keep rubber bands on until I'm ready to actually ribbon the bouquet. And you can keep it in water with the rubber band. If you have to transport it, it's easier to have it in a rubber band, because what you can just do is adjust the flowers when you get to where you need to be. So is yours all rubber banded, and you have the flowers where you want it? - [Christina] Ready to go. - [Expert] I think it looks amazing. - [Christina] You do. - I do. Once the rubber band is around the bouquet you can go ahead and place it down on the table. And this is actually how we're going to put the ribbon on. I find to be the easiest way. Because the back of the bouquet doesn't have a lot of flowers on it, you can go ahead and just set that down. - [Christina] Okay. - I love ribbon that is a super accent color, like a color that's not even a part of the color palette. - Totally unexpected. - Depending on what people want. Because I feel like this complements so well, and I ... blue's my favorite color. - [Christina] Let's do it. - [Expert] Before we ribbon it, we're going to need some tape. - [Christina] Okay. Thank you. - [Expert] So I'm going to give that to you. Floral tape is totally awesome, because when you stretch it, it actually sticks to itself. - [Christina] Oh, I see. - [Expert] Yeah. Pretty cool, huh? And it rips really easily as well. So what I like to do is measure out, I don't know, two to three feet. And then you can go ahead and just rip it. Or cut it with scissors if you need. And then this part is a little tricky, and definitely takes some time to get used to, but what I do is I start with a point, and I hold my finger down. And I start to pull the tape so it gets that sticky glue action happening. And again this just really helps to solidify the flowers in the place that they are. As you're wrapping it around, just make sure you pull it at every point, so that the glue really sticks to itself. - [Christina] So, no taping until you're 100% satisfied with the bouquet arrangement. - That's what I would say, yeah. I don't like to have a large gap of tape, or a large segment of tape, or anything that you want to hide, really. I never think that the ribbon should take up more room than it needs to, even though it's a pop of color, it really should have sort of a thin band around the actual stem. - [Christina] So we're gonna wrap a few times, but keep it concentrated in the same spot. - [Expert] Exactly. - [Christina] The floral taping. - [Expert] I would say probably about an inch of space. - [Christina] All good. - [Expert] And if you have extra tape, because you don't need to wrap it that many times, just go ahead and rip it, and pull the last part so that it can really stick to itself. - [Christina] Great. - [Expert] I'm going to catch a couple of petals in there. Let's go ahead and add our ribbon. Do you want blue as well? - [Christina] Yes I do. - I'm going to give you probably about three feet. The length of ribbon that you choose to cut is totally dependent on if you want a trailing ribbon coming down the bouquet, which is fairly trendy right now. But I still really like it. I think it adds to that sort of loose and natural look. Or if you just want a single piece wrapped around the stem base, that's totally fine. So I'm going to go ahead and give that part to you. What I like to do is start from the back here. And to be totally honest, you can do that too, Christina. It really doesn't matter. But, I fold over this piece right here. And then I go ahead and just give it a good wrap. Oh, and I tuck in this straggler piece, so that you can't really see it. Just have it nice and clean. Just like that. So I just wrap it around once or twice. Again, the inch or two inches is really how wide I like my ribbon base. - [Christina] Okay. - [Expert] And then once you have that little bit, you're going to go ahead and give it a little cut. So you can cut it right here. - [Christina] Always at an angle, right? Just-- - [Expert] You can do it at an angle, or straight. What you can do next is tuck this part under. - [Christina] Okay. Got that. - [Expert] And then we'll go ahead and pin it. So, if you want to watch

me here, yeah. So what I do is I kind of tuck that under, so that it's really clean, and then I'm going to go ahead and give it two pins, so that we can pin in this ribbon. The secret to this is to put the pin in at an angle, and to definitely catch some of the stem, so that it's not poking you as you're holding it. So I push it in at an angle. And here I've pushed it up, so that it's actually hidden in the center of the stem base. - [Christina] Got it. - [Expert] I go ahead and just give this point two pins, just to secure it. Because I always like to add the little trailing ribbon that I was talking about. - [Christina] Okay, I see. So this is just sort of a base, and then we're going to add the trailing ribbon second. - Exactly. - [Christina] Great. - So you can go ahead and take your longer piece of ribbon, and sort of put it behind where you've already placed the ribbon. And just kind of tie it. So this is where you can get creative. Like play around with it a couple of times. Sometimes I just put it in a single knot like that. And then I just add an extra pin in, just to make sure that it's super secure. And then you have pieces of trailing ribbon. You can make them really long. You can make them floor length if you'd like. You can make them a couple inches long, or a couple feet long even. Totally up to you. I usually like it to hit the bottom of the stem base, or recently I've liked that, so ... I just kind of measure it out to the bottom of the stems, and then we're going to go ahead and cut it. That looks super pretty. And even, why don't I make mine a little shorter, and you can make yours a little longer. - [Christina] Okay, and do we pin this, or are we just going to leave the single-- - [Expert] Yeah, so go ahead and put one more pin right there. Make sure you hide it in the stems, perfect. And then it's totally secure, it doesn't look too overdone, or like there's too many pins, or like that is the focus. Because I never think that that should be the focus. You can go ahead and fold your ribbon in half, this is like my favorite little trick. What you do is you start from the corner up here, and you just go at a little diagonal, so that the bottom is finished, like a little flag. - Oh, perfect. Okay. - [Expert] You can also just do the corners at an angle. Regardless, I like the edges of the ribbon always to be finished, if you want them-- - [Christina] Pretty. - [Expert] This way or that way, totally up to you. - [Christina] Let me try this way. - [Expert] Yeah, that's perfect. - [Christina] Okay. Number two. - [Expert] I'm going to make mine a little shorter. And then I'm going to go ahead and trim the stems, so that they're totally complete. - [Christina] Okay. - So what I can do here is fold this over. Give it a little finishing touch. Do it to the other side as well. I'm going to hold up my bouquet to make sure the ribbon is exactly where I want it placed. And I'm going to give these stems just a final fresh trim, before you transport them in water, so that when they get to their destination they're as happy as possible. And the last couple of things we have left to do on these three are to trim the stems, and to trim the ribbons, so that they look absolutely perfect. - [Christina] Cool. - [Expert] You can go ahead and trim just, I don't know, I'd say another half an inch off of this one. - [Christina] Okay, and it looks like you tend to cut yours so they're all straight across. - [Expert] I do cut mine fairly straight. But the stems are usually at an angle. - [Christina] You cut the stems at an angle. - [Expert] Yes. If you can cut the stems at an angle, they usually take water better that way. If there is a node at the end of one of the stems, like there is here, sort of, I would go ahead and cut above the node, so that it can take a little more water. - [Christina] Okay. - While you're transporting these flowers, if you made them at home, and you need to take them to another location, is to make sure that they're in a thin bath of water. So you're trimming it right now, what you would want to do is have short vases, short glass vases, that you can go ahead and fill a couple of inches of water, so that the stems are just barely in the water. - Okay. So you don't spill out in your car. - So you don't spill out in your car, and I would hate to have one of your silk ribbons be soaked in water, as you're handing it off. So that's important to keep in mind. I'm going to give this bouquet one last trim, so that these are ready to go. And I would say that these three bouquets would be great in a bridesmaid's crew.

What do you think? - [Christina] Totally. - The last things to keep into consideration as you're building these bouquets are to think about the color palette, the textures of the elements that you're using, the size of them, and how they all fit together. - [Christina] And you could use the same tips that you've shared for any season. - Absolutely, so any time of year you can really find, you know, many different varieties in the same sort of color family, of the same sizes, and things like that. So don't be afraid to get creative when you are coming up with your bridesmaid or bouquet recipe. Getting creative, and finding some unique things is the best way to do it in my book. - Great.