

New York Botanical Gardens Online Class
Floral Styling with Ranunculus and Ferns
Design Instructor: Trish O'Sullivan

Floral Design Materials

Welcome designers,

When selecting flowers aim for a balanced composition using the Four **key floral elements: focal flowers, complementary flowers, accent flowers and botanical material.**

1. Focal Flowers (The Showstoppers – Large, Eye-Catching)

These flowers create the centerpiece of the arrangement and draw the most attention.

- **Examples:**
 - 5 to 10 stems pink ranunculus
 - 5 to 10 stems peach or orange ranunculus
 - 5 stems burgundy ranunculus

2. Complementary Flowers (Adds Volume and Depth)

These flowers create depth and spotlight focal flowers.

- **Examples:**
 - 10 to 20 stems Boston fern
 - 5 to 10 stems dusty miller

3. Accent Material (Adds Movement & Interest – Unique or Textured Blooms)

These flowers give the design a personal touch, creating interest.

- **Examples:**
 - 5 to 10 stems of bulpurum
 - 5 thin stems of vine: flowering, with small leaves or bare

4. Botanical Material (The Supporting Cast – Adds Texture & Completes Design)

These botanical materials balance the design, frame the flowers, and set the design style.

- **Examples:**
 - Maidenhair Fern or any soft texture green

5. Vase Choices

Select a **pedstal** vase of your choice, considering the **size of the opening** to ensure proper stem support and proportion for the arrangement. Here are some commonly used vases:

- **Size Options & Opening:**
 - **Small:** 4" diameter (Opening: 4")
 - **Medium:** 5" diameter (Opening: 5")