



The Power of Flowers



Working with a florist could take a lot of stress out of your wedding

By Severo Avila
Rome News-Tribune Features Editor
SAvila@RN-T.com / 706-290-5255

Whatever the color theme or tone of your wedding, flowers are a big part of the event — and they come in all shapes, colors and sizes to suit your every need.

From the rich tradition of red roses to the simple elegance of lilies to the exotic modernity of orchids, flowers and plants have always been a big part of wedding ceremonies.

Local experts say brides need not fear the myriad of options. With the help of a knowledgeable florist, any couple can find the right flowers at the right price for their big event.

William Campbell, owner of Rome Florist, said there are brides who know exactly what they're looking for, from flower to color. And there are those who have only a vague idea of what they'd like.

"Either way, a florist can help you decide what would be best for the occasion," he said. "Some of our brides bring in pictures of bouquets or arrangements and we match those. We can do almost anything you like."

Campbell said he usually handles weddings as part of a package, which includes providing flowers for everything from the bouquet to corsages to flowers for the reception, rehearsal dinner and of course the altar.

But other florists may be able handle smaller requirements.

Whether it's for bouquets, boutonniere, corsages, the altar or the reception, brides have a bunch of questions about flowers.

What's the average cost for wedding flowers?

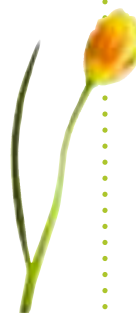
Expect to spend anywhere from \$500 to \$1,000 depending on the amount and variety of flowers you'd like.

When do I start shopping for my florist?

If you know your wedding date, start shopping six to 12 months ahead of time. Many of the best wedding floral designers and florists are booked well in advance.

We're on a tight budget. How can we save money?

There are a few ways to save when shopping for flowers. Choose blooms that are in season and/or are locally grown. Ask your florist or designer ahead of time if the flowers can be used for both the ceremony and the reception site. Don't be talked into putting flowers into every nook and cranny. Put your most expensive arrangements where you want to make the biggest impression and where they'll be seen the most. Use lots of greenery and choose smaller bouquets.



For The Wedding To Remember

Creating a most memorable wedding is our speciality

Brides and Grooms


- Designer Gowns
- Bridesmaids Dresses
- Flower Girl Dresses
- Veils • Shoes
- Invitations • Accessories
- Tuxedos (In Stock)

**245 Broad Street
Rome, GA 30161
706/291-7163
Layaways Welcome**

TOP HAT FORMAL WEAR



portmeirion®




Botanic Garden

Compleat Angler

Birds of Britain

Timeless and elegant, our Portmeirion collection includes tableware, bakeware and serving pieces. Each piece of Portmeirion China is backed with a lifetime guarantee... a beautiful and practical gift for any wedding.



LAVENDER MOUNTAIN HARDWARE & GARDEN
4065 Martha Berry Hwy., NW 706-295-0299
Hours: Mon. - Fri. 8 to 6 Sat. 8 to 5 & Sun. 1 to 5
www.lavendermountainhardware.com