

## HINTS FOR HOMEMAKERS

### Discover The Possibilities Of Flowers

(NAPS)—A fast and inexpensive way to revive any room in the house is to add fresh flowers. Why? Because flowers are a great way to brighten up the home, and they require very little time and effort to create a unique display.

You don't need to be a floral designer to have fresh flowers in your home each week. It only takes a few stems to transform the look of any room. With flowers more plentiful than ever, it's easy to pick up a bunch or bouquet and get started.

Questions inevitably arise about how to care for flowers and how to create simple displays. Lauri Ward, home décor expert and author of the best-selling book *Use What You Have Decorating*, provides the answers to some frequently asked questions about decorating with flowers:

**Q: What are the best types of containers to use for flowers?**

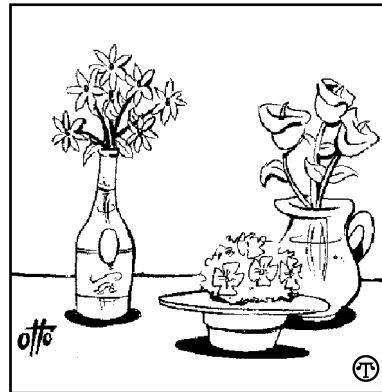
A: If it will hold water, it will hold flowers. Be creative. Use unique containers such as inverted hats, pottery, display bowls and glassware are all excellent containers for flowers.

**Q: Are there certain colors that work best together?**

A: Group like-colored flowers of varying types and shades. For example, white roses and white carnations or pink gerbera daisies, pink lilies and pink carnations.

**Q: What's the best display to create using a pre-packaged bunch of flowers?**

A: Buy two mixed bunches and group them into like colors. You can create one large display and



**Flowers create a fresh look in any room—and you can display them in anything that will hold water.**

several small ones to use throughout the house. For smaller arrangements, use an odd number of stems—one or three work best.

**Q: Where is the best place to display flowers?**

A: In high traffic areas and busy rooms of your house, where you can enjoy them the most, i.e. the kitchen, bedroom or bathroom. When finding the right spot, try to keep them away from direct sunlight, air vents, or televisions and radiators. This will keep flowers hydrated for a longer time.

**Q: How can I make my flowers last longer?**

A: Cut flowers with a sharp knife (instead of scissors) at an angle. Place flowers into the water as soon as possible after cutting off the ends. Be sure and strip all leaves below the water line, and change the water every other day. For more flower ideas, visit [www.flowerpossibilities.com](http://www.flowerpossibilities.com).