



FLOWER CARE TIPS

Many people are often frustrated by how short-lived a bouquet may be once they get it home. They may forget that fresh cut flowers are still living entities that can be encouraged to last much longer under the right conditions. The following tips will help make your flowers last longer.

TIP #1

Replenish the water frequently. Change the water entirely every 2-3 days. Flowers drink a lot of water!

It is not uncommon for a flower arrangement to suck up all the water in a vase within the first day or two you have it at home. Keep the vase full to ensure the flowers do not dry out and wilt. Flowers are also highly susceptible to bacteria that builds up as stems sit in the water. By changing the water in the vase every few days, even if the water hasn't been used up, will help keep your flowers fresh longer (and avoid that yucky rotten smell that develops if you let them sit for a long time).

TIP #2

Trim at least a half inch of stem off your flowers before you put them in a vase and each time you change the water. As flowers sit out of water on your ride home, the ends of the stem dry out and the cells die, making it difficult for the flowers to absorb water. By cutting the stems just before placing them in water again, you expose fresh tissue that sucks up the water much more efficiently. Then trim the stems when you change the water in the vase a few days later and once again expose fresh tissue that absorbs more water.

TIP #3

Keep your flowers away from heat and bright light. Sometimes people think they should set their vase of flowers in a sunny windowsill since that is where a plant would be happiest. However, cut flowers are the opposite of potted plants. The sun and heat cause cut flowers to deteriorate. Instead, keep your cut flowers in a cool dark spot if you would like them to last as long as possible.

TIP #4

Avoid exposing your flowers to ripening fruit or vegetables, especially bananas and apples.

Ripening fruit gives off an odorless invisible gas called ethylene. This gas is harmless to humans, but rather deadly to flowers. When you sit your vase of flowers next to ripening fruit, you're exposing them to this gas and they will drop their petals.

TIP #5

After you throw out your last arrangement, be sure to wash the vase/container very thoroughly in hot soapy water or, better yet, in your dishwasher. Bacteria build up in dirty vases and do not go away just because the vase dries out. As soon as you add water again, the vase will once again be full of bacteria. So give that vase a good cleaning and give your flowers a fresh clean environment free of bacteria and they will last much longer.

TIP #6

Don't use "flower food" for most flowers. Changing the water every other day or so is just as effective for helping flowers last longer as adding flower food.

TIP #7

Use sharp scissors when cutting. If you use dull old scissors or snips to trim your flowers, you are often smashing, or damaging, the end of the stem. Sharp scissors ensure a clean cut that leaves the stems unharmed and able to drink up water to ensure a long vase life.

ENJOY YOUR HOME-GROWN BLOOMS FROM
MOUNTAIN PRAIRIE FLOWER FARM.
THANK YOU FOR SHOPPING LOCAL!