
Floriculture - Flower Show Terminology

(See National Garden Clubs Handbook for Flower Shows - Revised 2007 for explanation.)

PRINCIPLES OF DESIGN: Basic art standards used to organize design elements.

These principles are:

1. Balance
2. Proportion
3. Scale
4. Rhythm
5. Dominance
6. Contrast

ELEMENTS OF DESIGN: Basic, visual qualities of a design. They are:

1. Space
2. Line
3. Form
4. Size
5. Color
6. Texture
7. Pattern
8. Light

THE ART OF DESIGN IS CLASSIFIED AS FOLLOWS:

TRADITIONAL DESIGN: Style of floral design created prior to the mid-Twentieth Century. See pages 181-183 in the Handbook for Flower Shows, 2007 Edition.

(a) Line Design - A design in which the linear pattern is dominant. The line may be vertical, horizontal, crescent S-curve, zig-zag, etc.

(b) Line-mass - A design in which additional material enhances and strengthens the line.

(c) Mass - A design characterized by the use of large quantities of plant material.

CREATIVE DESIGN: An original concept in the choice of components or in the organization of the design elements within the limitations of the principles of design. Please see the Handbook for Flower Shows, 2007 Edition pages 196-213 for examples of different creative designs.

ACCESSORY: A subordinate object in an arrangement, something other than plant material, container, base, special staging and mechanics.

ALFESCO FUNCTIONAL TABLE: Dining out-of-doors. A table exhibit planned and set for the actual service of food, capable of functioning for dining as displayed. Usually includes dishes, beverage containers, coverings and decorative unit. Coordination of all components must be balanced within overall space. Convenience and sense of order must prevail. Napkins must be used on all seated Functional Tables. See page 215-222 in the Handbook for Flower Shows Revised 2007.

BACKGROUND: The surface against which an arrangement, or part of an arrangement, is seen. It may be used as frame of reference or incorporated into design.

BASE: A stand or other form placed under container and judged as part of container. It is an optional component used when needed to help proportion or balance, unify design components, or add height to an arrangement.

COLLAGE: A two-dimensional abstract design on a flat panel or board. Low relief plant material is used in design. Flat round objects may be included. Visual depth is obtained by overlapping planes and juxtaposition of color, pattern and/or texture. Includes abstract mosaics.

DRIED PLANT MATERIAL: Plant material from which the moisture has been removed, either naturally or by mechanical means.

DUO DESIGN: A Creative Design organized in one container or in containers joined to appear as one, or in a contrivance, or mechanic. It is organized as two designs, back to back and entered in two separate classes in the Design Division. See page 200-201 in the Handbook for Flower Shows, Revised 2007.

FRESH PLANT MATERIAL: Living plant/s or any part/s thereof.

WREATH HANGING TYPE I DESIGN: A Non-Kenetic Design. One unit suspended on a flat surface. Important that space be incorporated within design.

MINIATURE DESIGN: May be of any design style. Requirements are same as for any full size design. No more than 5" in height, width or depth. Scale is important.

PEDESTAL: A vertical structure for display of a design.

REFLECTIVE: A Creative Design containing material/s that reflect, give back image/s of light or other components to the viewer. Reflective material/s are placed to reflect light and/or provide visual involvement of the viewer with the reflective part/s of the design. Staging a design on or in front of a mirror is not a Reflective Design. See page 207 in the Handbook for Flower Shows, Revised 2007.

TREATED PLANT MATERIAL: Dried plant material artificially altered by use of any substance, including painting, glycernizing and skeletonizing. It is permitted in the flower show unless the schedule forbids.

UNDERWATER DESIGN: Creative Design having part or parts, including some plant material, submerged in water to create interest. Those components under water must contribute artistically to the overall design and not merely be stems and/or mechanics. Transparent container(s). Components to be placed under water are chosen for lasting effects and are anchored or propped so they will not float. See page 212 in Handbook For Flower Shows, Revised 2007.

For additional information, please see the National Garden Clubs Handbook for Flower Shows - 2007 Edition and recent publications of The National Gardener, section on Flower Show School for changes made to the 2007 edition (these changes are listed on The National Garden Club Website - www.gardenclub.org which can be found at the Garden Council Headquarters in Reynolda Village or contact Design Consultant Chairman.
