



# Texas State Florists' Association

Asymmetrical Arrangement

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LEVEL 2 HIGH SCHOOL FLORAL  
DESIGN CERTIFICATION



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Texas State Florists' Association

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# Additional Testing Information

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- Students will be provided a cube, 1/3 brick wet floral foam, vase and fresh product.
- Students **MUST** bring a knife, stem cutters, shears and wire cutters.
- There will be no tools provided.
- The three Level 2 designs will be timed in one hour and 30 minutes.
- Retesting is available for students who do not pass one or more items in the design portion.
- Retest time will be 30 minutes per design portion (i.e., retesting the asymmetrical arrangement only in 30 minutes, the corsage only in 30 minutes, or one dozen roses only in 30 minutes).
- Testing dates, places and times will be available on the TSFA website at [tsfa.org](http://tsfa.org).
- Students may retest for a reduced fee.



# Completed Asymmetrical Triangle Arrangement



## Required Materials and Flowers Needed to Complete Level 2 Asymmetrical Arrangement

- 4" Cube or Similar
  - 1/3 Brick Wet Foam
  - 2 Liatris
  - 3 Roses
  - 6 Carnations
  - 2 Cremons
  - 4 Lily Grass
  - 1 Multi-branched Pittosporum Stem
- If using a clear cube, a 16" Aspidistra leaf ribbon or two real Aspidistra leaves will be provided to cover the foam

*\*No extra product will be provided. Use what you have wisely. TSFA will not count off for inferior product. Graders will judge on stem placement.\**

# Prepare Cube for Design

## SUPPLIES:

- 1/3 block wet floral foam
- Aspidistra or ribbon



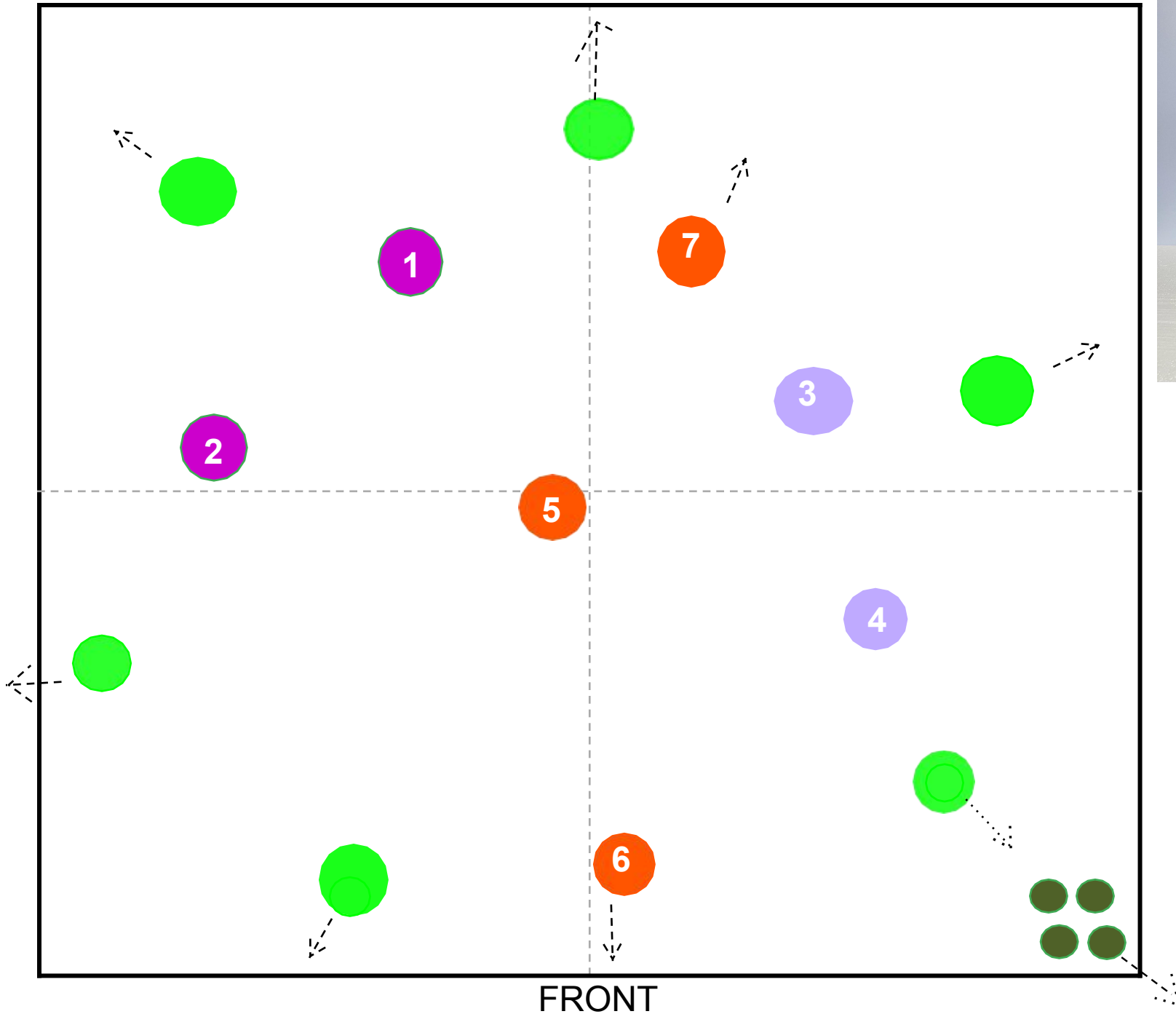
1. Wrap the foam with leaves or ribbon, unless using a solid color cube. The end of the ribbon needs to be either in the corner or back of the container.
2. Place the brick in the container, tall side up so it extends up over the container edge a little. Bevel all four corners of the foam. (This is so flower and leaf product can be inserted over the side, creating a unified look between the container and contents.)
3. While taping is necessary for delivery, it will not be taped for testing. Instructors should demonstrate the taping of the cube in class. The proper way is to wrap the lip of the vase with clear 1/4" floral tape, place two parallel pieces over the foam and secure with an additional wrap of floral tape around the lip of the vase.

# Key Points for Success

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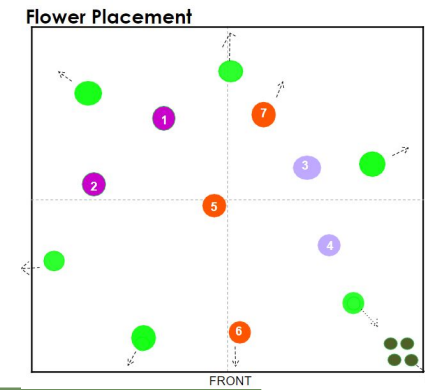
- Cut stems at 45° angle with a knife or snips right before insertion to expose new cell tissue. Stems will seal themselves in approximately 30 seconds, once cut.
- Do not cut multiple stems at one time.
- Hold stems securely when cutting to avoid breakage.
- Stems must be secure in floral foam below the water line.
- Do not reinsert stems in the same hole, as it will not stay in place or take up water.
- Develop an asymmetrical triangle design when viewed from the front. Each side is different, with one side high and the other low.
- Carefully measure before cutting the stem.
- As with all designs, place smaller blooms on the outside edges and at the top. Larger blooms are to be placed to the inside or lower than the smaller flowers for depth. With this design being made with groupings, the same placement is used within each group of flowers, directing your eye to the focal area.
- **The tallest flower should be 16"-18" tall.** Do not make the design too short and dense, as it will lack space and proportion.
- **The width of the overall design is 8"-10".**
- Placement of flowers is important — this design must show depth of placements. Flowers may touch, but they are separate.
- When inserting stems into foam, push until secure (at least 1.5"-2"), while watching the flower tip so it comes to its final position in the correct spot.
- Fluff tight or non round carnations, if necessary, by rolling the calyx between your thumb and forefinger, gently stroking the petals before inserting them into the foam.
- Groom roses by removing guard petals. Be careful not to over peel.
- Snip leaves from the stem tips on Bells of Ireland.
- Make sure to use the entire brick for depth and spacing between flowers.

# Flower Placement



-  Line Flower  
*Liatrix/Bells of Ireland*
-  Cremons  
Roses
-  Carnations
-  Lily Grass
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# Insert Liatris

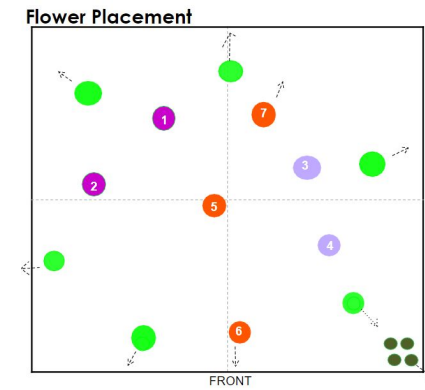


1. Place Liatris #1 on one side toward the back to create design height. Think of the foam brick as a grid of four squares. Use the upper left square. Flower tips should be 18-22" from the tabletop.
2. Liatris #2 is added near the first, slightly in front and to the left of it. The second Liatris is slightly shorter than the first. It shadows the first and further develops the line.





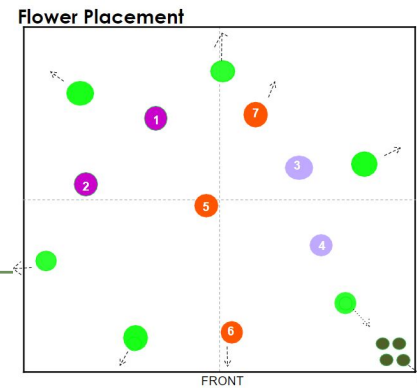
# Insert Cremons



1. Neatly remove the leaves from the Cremon stem.
2. On the opposite side of the foam in the upper square, place the Cremon #3 for a secondary line. The height is variable, depending on the size of the blossom and height of your Liatris. Use the smaller of the two Cremons for the top.
3. Place Cremon #4 to shadow the first. It should be below and to the right of the first.



# Creation of Focal Area



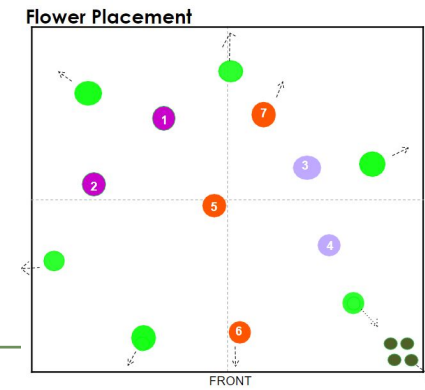
*\*Insertion of all roses is between the Liatris and the Cremons. Do not push the rose all the way down to the foam.\**

1. Rose #5 is in the middle facing upward, and a little taller than the other 2 roses, creating depth.
  2. Rose #6 faces the front, and the stem entry is slightly right of the center.
  2. Rose #7 faces the back, with stem entry near the center on the right.
- The front and back roses should radiate from the middle rose.
  - They are not in a perfect row. Each rose should be distinct from the others, yet they should still appear as one unit. They are in a crescent-shaped line, that curves to the right.
  - Leave space to cluster the carnations underneath.



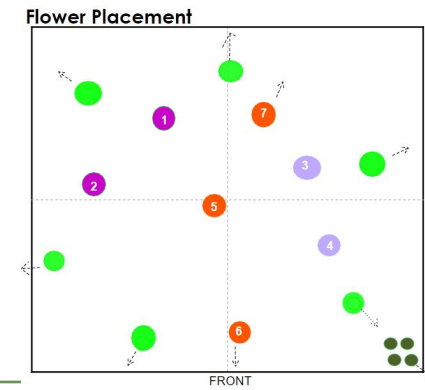
Front View

# Basing Flowers



- Insert six fully fluffed carnations under and around the roses, Cremons and Liatris.
- All stems continue to point to the focal, which is the bottom center of the cube.
- Refer to the diagram of placement for approximate locations.

# Insertion of Foliage



1. Insert four Lily Grass stems on the right side at the base of the Cremons, allowing them to drape and give a low side to the triangle. Keep the Lily Grass a reasonable length, relative to the design, with approximately 8" visible from the carnations' base.



*After adding Pittosporum*

2. Insert Pittosporum radially in and around the carnations to add depth and cover all mechanics and foam.

*After adding Lily Grass*



# Final Review

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- All flowers radiate from the center.
- All stems are deeply inserted.
- All mechanics are covered.
- No floral foam is showing.
- The design is not too short and compact.
- It is not too tall and sparse.
- There is space between flowers.
- The focal is distinct and obvious.
- The design has great visual and physical balance.



# Substitution Possibilities

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- Snapdragons or Bells of Ireland may be substituted for Liatris.
- Spider Mums or Disbud Mums may be substituted
- for Cremons or carnations.
- Carnations may be substituted for roses if a different flower is used for basing.
- Statice may be used for basing instead of carnations; however, be sure to space it radially.
- Bear Grass, English Ivy or Italian Ruscus may be substituted instead of Lily Grass.
- Several Mini Green Hydrangeas may be used
- instead of carnations for basing.
- Leatherleaf or salal may be substituted in place of Pittosporum.
- We chose a triadic color harmony of green, purple and orange. Try other color harmonies to enhance the students' understanding of color theory.
- Use these substitutions to further instruct the students in design, so they enter Level 2 Certification with skills and experience. Practicing a design multiple times will enhance their testing skills and confidence.

