



Winter Florals

Craft your own bridal bouquet using the season's muted tones and textures.

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FLORAL BOUQUET AND INSTRUCTION BY KIRA MULVANY OF ROSES & MINT FLORALS

Spend a bright morning prior to your ceremony choosing from winter's foliage to build a beautiful bouquet that will enhance your photos and weave yet another lasting memory into your wedding day.

Natural textures and florals found during the winter season are rich and vibrant, and include berries, twigs and seeds to accent your nosegay.

Kira Mulvany of St. Charles-based Roses & Mint Florals suggests choosing several elements that will allow your bouquet to show off the beauty of the season. Offbeat elements like feathers, branches and herbs add a touch of the unexpected,

while colors can either be seasonal—like shades of crimson and ivy—or be planned to correspond with your overall color palette.

FLORALS + GREENERY:

Small birch branches, Mondial roses, Rosemary, Blue thistle, Pheasant feathers, Silver brunia, White waxflower, Eucalyptus, Viburnum berry, Dusty Miller

SUPPLIES:

Sturdy clippers, Scissors, Zip ties, Waterproof tape, Floral tape, Ribbon or leather strapping, Decorative straight pins



TIPS:

1/ Add contrasting textures by using soft feathers, roses and dusty miller to round silver brunia, spiky sea holly and pine-like elements of the rosemary and wax-flowers.

2/ Look for inspiration right outside your door. Even during the winter season, you'll be surprised by the variety you could use in your winter bouquet.

3/ When choosing a color scheme, think in terms of

shades. Just like you'll use a variety of textures, use several tones in your bouquet. In this case, we went with a mostly white, blue and silver color scheme adding touches of brown with twigs, feathers and leather.

4/ If you're inspired by the red berries of the season, consider adding some deep wine or raspberry roses. If you love the look of softer green eucalyptus, add a deeper green tone like that of camellia foliage to set it off. Most importantly, choose what you love.



STEPS:

1/ Start with your favorite rose, along with a stem of each accent flower in your bouquet. Hold them in your hand loosely.

2/ Continue adding the roses and other elements around that center grouping. Turn the bouquet after you've added stems to keep everything spread evenly

throughout. Keep a loose grip so you can easily adjust any stems throughout the process.

3/ Add an additional ring or layer of roses and accent flowers, until the bouquet is the size desired.

4/ Next, add feathers and small birch branches. Consider grouping the feathers together in one area to make a bigger visual impact.



STEPS *continued:*

5/ Secure the bouquet with a zip tie at the top, which work great for winter's woody stems. Then, wrap a few layers of waterproof tape around the zip ties and stems, for extra security. Next, wrap your stems with floral tape. This smooths the bouquet handle and sets the stage for the finishing touches.

6/ Finally, wrap the bouquet handle with ribbon, lace, leather or another desired material. Secure it with decorative pins or with a knot. For this bouquet, we chose rose gold- and camel-colored leather strapping. Give the bottom of your stems a final trim so they're even with each other.

Special thanks to model Tara Johnson @ West Model Management and Adam Foster Jewelry.

