

IN BLOOM!

Flowers play a big part on the happiest day of your life. But, the question is... fake or fresh? Roses or carnations? There are lots of options and that's why **Rhea Dhanbhoora** tells you about some of the most popular flowers and floral themes this wedding season

SYMBOLIC STEMS

TULIP ▽
The red variety of the tulip represents the perfect lover.



FORGET-ME-NOT <<
These little blue flowers are symbolic of true love and happy memories.



LAVENDER ^
The toothed sprigs are the most delicate symbol of true love.

BABY'S BREATH
The little white flowers are symbols of eternal love and will look great in your bridal bouquet.



ROSE ^
White roses symbolise eternal love while yellow ones are a symbol of joy.



ORCHID ^
Orchids symbolise eternal love and are available in both purple as well as blue and white varieties.



CARNATION >>
A white carnation is a symbol of pure love and is said to be a woman's good luck gift as well.



ANEMONE ^
The velveteen buttercups are a symbol of unfading love and affection and are available in an array of bold colours.



ASTER ▽
The symbolic meaning of this dainty flower is full of love.



PEONY >>
These little flowers are the said to be an aphrodisiac.

With wedding season around the corner, it's time to focus on flowers. Kavita and Srishti Kapur from Floral Art, tell us that there are two major themes this season: **Traditional themes:** Tube roses, ladis and marigolds are used in abundance. **Western themes:** Exotic flowers such as liliuims and anthuriums are popular as are imported flowers such as hydrangeas.

IT'S THEME TIME

Take a look at the popular themes: **Rajasthani:** A theme heavy on flowers that includes lanterns and puppets. **Fusion:** A fusion of western style floral arrangements with an Indian touch. **Paisley peacock:** Floral themes in an array of colours akin to a peacock's feathers. **Lotus:** Lotus flowers are gaining popularity and themes involving them are in demand.

PLUCKING LOVE

If you believe in the symbolism behind

flowers, you may want to spread a message with flowers on your wedding day:

Roses: Love is like a red, red, rose — but don't forget the white ones! White roses symbolise eternal love.

Tulips: If you think roses are a bit of a cliché, opt for tulips. They're long lasting so they won't wilt while the wedding party is on.

Anemones: You'll be lucky to source a bouquet of these symbols of love. The velveteen buttercups are available in bold colours such as blue and purple.

Asters: The thin petal flowers look gorgeous combined with ferns on a wedding stage.

Baby's breath: These understated white flowers may not pretty up your stage but can add a delicate touch to your bridal bouquet.

Carnations: They look like crumpled bits of silk and the white ones symbolise pure love.

Forget-me-nots: Beautiful in a bunch, the tiny blue flowers dotted with yellow are hard to source but worth it and are a symbol of love.

Lavender: The beautiful, tubular sprigs symbolise true love.

Orchids: This Chinese symbol for children is also a symbol of eternal love.

Peony: We're not saying you need an aphrodisiac, but these delicate blooms will spice things up a little at your wedding party.

GETTING STARTED

Srishti and Kavita give us a few tips:

- Select a theme according to your budget.
- Delicate settings in focal areas look better.
- Use only one or two colour combinations.
- Flowing drapes complement floral arrangements well.
- Focal areas should be the backdrop of your stage, vidhi mandap, entrance and center table arrangements.

FLORAL ART

Mother-daughter duo Kavita and Srishti Kapur are the creative hands behind Floral Art. "We have a strong backing of our study of Ikebana (the Japanese art of floral arrangements). This shows in our style of wedding floral arrangements as well," Srishti tells us. All their arrangements are customised to the detailed requirements of their customers. Log on to www.floralart.in to find out more about them.

Where: 45, Vardaan, 11th Road, Jai Hind Society, JVPD Scheme, Juhu
Contact: 9833989613 / 9324207736

FAKE OR FRESH

Confused about whether to opt for fake flowers? Srishti and Kavita advise against them and would pick the fresh version. They tell us, "Fresh flowers look better as they add life to the venue and gives the ambience a more natural look." We also feel that since it's a once in a lifetime event, it should be unique and special. However, opting for fake flowers is usually a cheaper option.



>> Delicate blooms and well placed floral arrangements can really add a tender touch to your nuptials

<< TOP 5: WEDDING FLORISTS IN THE CITY

1. FLORAL ART

If you want your wedding's floral arrangements to have designs that are off the beaten path, this is where you need to go. The floral decorators concentrate on the artistic side of decoration, moving away from overtly traditional arrangements to offer you something unique.

WHERE JVPD Scheme, Juhu
CONTACT 9820983674

2. CLAIRE'S PARTY SUPPLIES

Claire's knows how important your big day is for you and will have all your floral requirements taken care of. From bouquets and tiaras to baskets and coronet corsages, they take care of the smallest details.

WHERE: Orlem, Malad (W)
CONTACT 9769713102



3. DILIP DECORATORS

Having been in the business of decoration for over 20 years, you can be sure your day has a spattering of delightful flowers without having to go through any trouble at all. They provide floral decorations and will also see to any other decorating needs you may have.

WHERE www.dilipdecorators.com
CONTACT 9820145102

4. SAY IT WITH FLOWERS

From sending someone a wedding bouquet to the best arrangements you could hope for — this is your one stop destination. The bouquets and flowers are fresh, well done up and can also be customised.

WHERE Bamanwada, Andheri (E)
CONTACT 28227216 / 28398926

5. PRETTY PETALS

For unique designs and ultra customised looks, Pretty Petals in Bandra is the best place to go. Leave it up to them and you're going to come into a wedding venue filled with the prettiest setting and a beautifully done up stage. And if you like a little more control over the decorations, they're happy to give you exactly what you have in mind with the freshest imported flowers.

WHERE Bandra (W)
CONTACT 9821036990