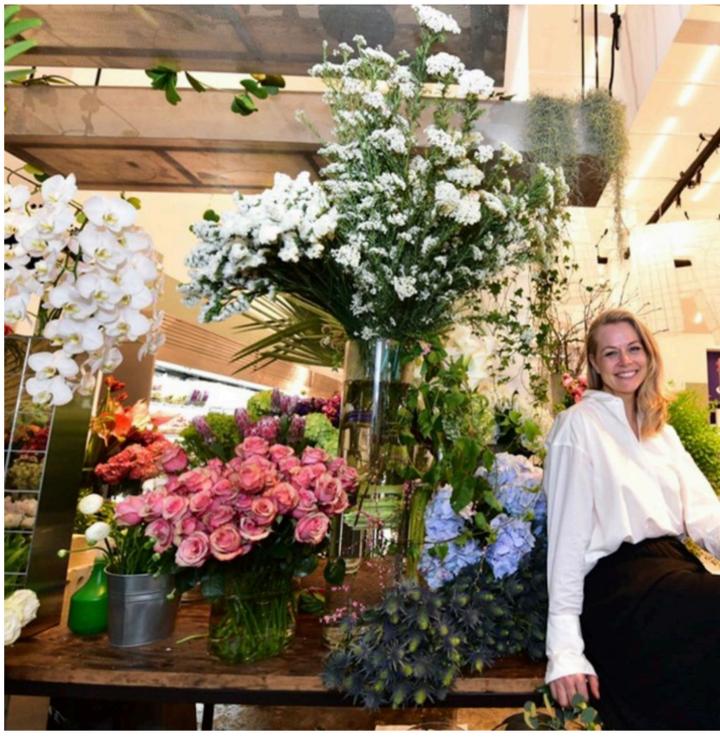


5 SIMPLE TIPS TO MAKE YOUR GORGEOUS FLOWERS LAST LONGER, ACCORDING TO A CELEBRITY FLORIST

Elizabeth Liew | Published June 20, 2019



Decorating your home with fresh flowers is a surefire way to liven up your space and make it feel more warm and inviting. And if you have guests coming round, a gorgeous vase of blooms can be a great talking point too. But what are some ways to make your flowers live longer?

Celebrity florist Saskia Havekes, the founder of boutique flower shop Grandiflora who has worked with VIP clients like Nicole Kidman and Cate Blanchett, was in town for the opening of Grandiflora's first overseas outlet at the all-new [Culina at COMO Dempsey](#). We got her to show us some easy peasy ways to create a beautiful decor piece with fresh blooms (check out the video below!). While doing so, she also shared with us some handy tips to lengthen the lifespan of your flowers.



Tip 1: Always cut the ends of the stems.

Before putting your freshly-bought flowers into a vase, make sure to cut the ends of the stems at an angle. This ensures that they're open to taking in fresh water, says Saskia.

And if you can, recut the stems each time you change the water, so they get another fresh burst of water. "You'll get a lot more longevity out of your flowers that way," she says.

Photo: Pexels



Tip 2: Change the water every other day.

If you're working with a larger vase of flowers of foliage, Saskia says the best way to change the water is to "ask someone to help you".

"Grab the flowers and lift them, while somebody takes the vase away, changes the water and brings it back. Then, you squeeze the stems together and put them back into fresh water," she advises.

Photo: Pexels



Tip 3: Remove extra foliage from flower stems.

"It's always good to clean up the base of flowers from foliage because they tend to make the water go a little bit rancid," Saskia warns. "So if you can, strip a lot of the foliage off your flowers, and it does give a lot more longevity."

Also, when you remove some of the "bushy" greenery, it makes it a lot easier to slide the flower in amongst the other blooms, and makes it look a lot cleaner too.

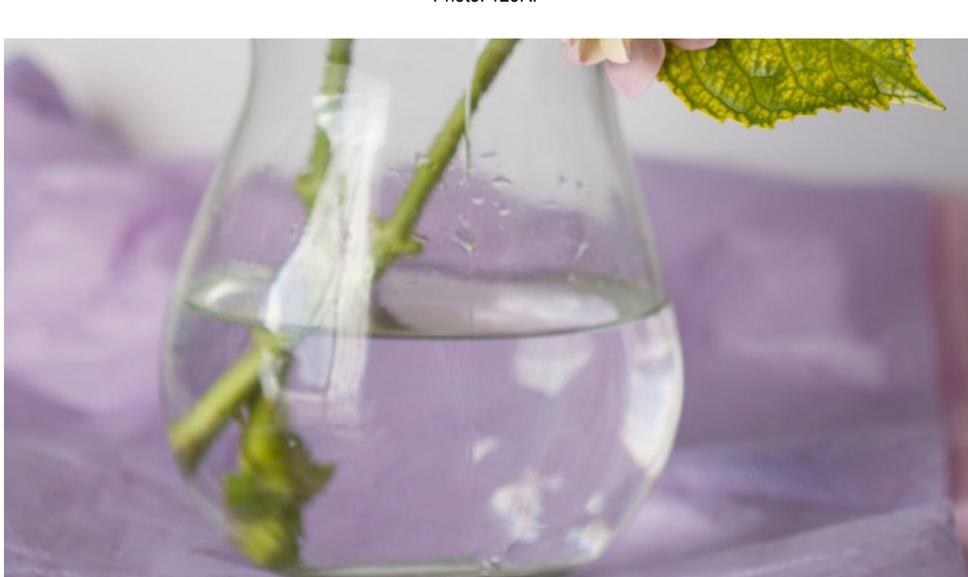
Photo: Pexels



Tip 4: Neaten petals and leaves with scissors if necessary.

"If you have a flower of leaf that has been torn, just neaten it up with some scissors," Saskia says. Don't be afraid of trimming a petal!

Photo: 123RF



Tip 5: Fill the vase with enough water.

How do you know if you have enough water in a vase? "Put your finger down into the vase, and if you feel the water hit the top of your finger you know you've filled it high enough," says Saskia. This is especially useful if you're using an opaque vase.

Also, when inserting flowers, Saskia recommends getting them in at an angle, where you can feel the stem hit the side of the vase.

"But of course you need to make sure that it's got water, so once you've finished the arrangement just top the water up with a little jug - you can use a kitchen kettle as long as it's not hot."

Photo: Pexels