

“IKEBANA” Style Arrangement

Mechanics/Vase:

Shallow dish or bowl

Kenzen / Pin Frog – secured to bowl with waterproof floral putty

Fill water to rim to cover frog

Stones (optional)

Floral materials:

3 Main Stems (e.g. flowering branches, curly willow) set the LINE. Think of creating an obtuse triangle.

1. SHIN (Heaven) – Tallest
 - Approximately 2 X the diameter of the dish/bowl
 - Inserted straight into pin frog, then angled about 15degrees towards the back
2. SOE (Man) – 2/3 height of SHIN
 - Inserted at a 45 degree angle same direction as SHIN / but more towards the front / middle plane
3. HIKAE (Earth) – ½ height of the SOE
 - Inserted at about 75 degree angle OPPOSITE direction of the SHIN and SOE aiming towards the front of the design

Add Supporting main flowers near the Main stems varying the height and directions using the Main Stems as a guide. Generally place additional flowers that are larger/ heavier/ fuller near the bottom and lighter, airier smaller blooms or greens can be taller. Create fullness if you have smaller blooms by grouping a few of the same flowers for a lower focal point or adding greens. These things help achieve BALANCE.

GOALS:

Strive for BALANCE

Notice and embrace the NEGATIVE spaces (areas where there are NO flowers or stems)

The end product does not just have the purpose of being a beautiful object, but it is the art of the creation and enjoying a meditative connection with nature while doing it.

Notes:

Important to use EXCEPTIONAL plant material as only a few stems are used as opposed to a more traditional floral design. They must be pristine as each one stands out and is noticed.

Take time to observe the natural curvature of a branch or stem, the direction of petals or leaves and use the natural form to enhance the LINE of your design.

Manipulation of a branch, leaf or petal is acceptable to achieve the line, form and balance you desire.

Think of creating an obtuse triangle with the 3 first main stems. Use these main stems as a guide to placing your supporting flowers and greens. Do not over fill your design – leave SPACE !