



ACF Floral Contests "Cheat Sheet"



Q: "What is considered advanced preparation in Fair Pairs?"

In floral design, **advanced preparation** often means that supplies or parts of a project are made ready before the design begins. For example:

- Floral foam is already soaked and placed in the container.
- Containers are cleaned, lined, or taped before contest
- Bows are made a head of time.

When we say "**no advanced preparation**," it means:

- Nothing is ready beforehand.
- The designer (YOU) must do all steps—soaking and securing foam, taping the grid, filling with water, tying bows, etc.
- The floral project starts completely from scratch with raw materials.
- The only thing that is allowed to be pre-made ahead of time is YOUR CONTAINER/PROP.
- You may also already have your foam cut to size prior to contest to eliminate waste.
- And you are allowed to pre-paint your floral product, if you wish to include paint.

Q: "Where can I purchase my flowers for Fair Pairs?"

- Flowers can often be purchased via Walmart or Sam's club.
- You can likely order flowers through a local florist, but you may run into paying retail cost for that product.
- There are several wholesale opens, like Johnsen's Wholesale Florist, Southern Floral Company, Taylor's, or Hill's Wholesale Florist, but they often require customers to have an EIN number.
- You can also contact Ashlyn Childress, ACF Floral Superintendent, to order flowers.

Q: "Do my flowers need a water source?"

- Yes, your flowers need a water source.
- Rules were updated for this year to include the following
 - Flowers and foliage must be able to stay alive for at least 3 days from time of contest date.
 - Also new rule change includes if a exhibitor wins Grand Champion and Reserve Champion in Fair Cup and/or Fair Pairs they are required to display it in the Fine Arts location of the ACF Fairgrounds. (VIP Section of Angelina Co. Expo)