

How to Make Rolled Leaves in Floral Arrangements

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Floral arrangements are rarely complete without some type of greenery accent for contrast. Whether your goal is to make simple table centerpieces or to construct a grand showpiece, fresh rolled leaves are a lovely complement to a botanical-type floral arrangement. Include a few fresh rolled leaves in your floral arrangement for some eye-catching visual interest.

Difficulty:

Moderately Challenging

Instructions

Things You'll Need

- Fresh leaves
 - Floral foam
 - Florist pins
 - Floral wire
- 1 Choose a fresh, flexible leaf for the arrangement. Small, drier leaves will be extremely difficult to manipulate and won't hold their shape, if you can even manage to roll them. Large varieties that will work well for this project include aspidistra, canna, cordyline, flax and galax leaves. Choose the one that works the best for the type of flower that the leaf will be accenting.
 - 2 Set out the tools and floral arranging base that you will be using for the project. You might choose to configure an arrangement on a floral foam base covered in rolled leaves, which will necessitate the use of florist pins to hold the leaves to the base. If merely rolling leaves individually and adding them to a standing vase arrangement, floral wire should suffice.
 - 3 Prepare the leaves by warming them in your hands. Gently stroking them in your palms will lightly warm them and enable them to be more flexible as you work with them. You might find it more beneficial to warm each one individually before you roll and secure it.
 - 4 If working around a floral foam base, use a florist pin to secure one of the leaves onto the base by pinning across the vein of the leaf on one end. Gently curve the leaf and anchor the other end into the base, again pinning across the vein with a florist pin. Continue with more leaves, each time securing one end, curving or rolling it into whatever shape you desire, and securing the opposite end into the base. Use your imagination to create whatever shapes the leaves will allow you to make.
 - 5 If creating individual rolled leaf accents to add into a larger arrangement, simply warm a leaf in your hands, roll it into the desired shape and run a small piece of floral wire through it. Continue wrapping individual leaves around the first and securing with floral wire to create a larger, rose-shaped rolled leaf accent. Wrap wire around the stems of the leaves, trim the end of the wire and add it to your arrangement.

Overview

Ti leaves make their way into the repertoire of most experienced floral designers because of their staying power and versatility. The long, wide and flexible foliage lends itself to a number of applications. Ti leaves are cultivated in a variety of colors including a deep emerald green, a rich garnet red, and a variegated rainbow blend featuring a light grayish-green center and a brilliant pink edge and stem. This makes ti leaves an attractive choice for anyone interested in creating a dramatic arrangement using an affordable number of stems.

Step 1

Arrange ti leaves to extend the breadth of a floral spray. For a vertical arrangement, reinforce the leaves if necessary by inserting wire through the central vein.

Step 2

Use ti leaves as an underlay for a table arrangement. Cut the leaves to the desired length and arrange them in a star burst [design](#). For more flair, alternate green leaves with variegated or red leaves.

Step 3

Dress up an ordinary container by wrapping it in ti leaves fastened with a ribbon or strands of raffia, which is available in most craft and floral supply shops.

Step 4

Create an impressive arrangement by forming ti leaves cut to the desired length into loops and arranging them in two or more overlapping layers toward the outer edges of a shallow container. Start by placing a block of florist's foam in the container. As you work, fasten the cut ends of the leaves to the block of foam with florist's pins. Finish by arranging flowers of your choice in the center of the ti leaf "bow" you have fashioned.

Step 5

Wrap the cut stems of a bouquet of tulips or lilies with ti leaves and fasten with ribbons and pearl-tipped pins to make a quick but sophisticated [bridal bouquet](#).

Read more: [How to Use TI Leaves in Floral Arrangements](http://www.soyouwanna.com/use-ti-leaves-floral-arrangements-2788.html#ixzz2KoX3bewP) <http://www.soyouwanna.com/use-ti-leaves-floral-arrangements-2788.html#ixzz2KoX3bewP>