

# advice from a *floral designer*

## What's the easiest way for couples to personalize their flower arrangements?

Choose flowers that speak to the season of your wedding. Staying seasonal and using locally sourced blooms is recommended, as you'll see the best and freshest flowers that your wedding month has to offer, rather than a bloom that won't be at its peak on your wedding day.

## What specific blooms are in your dream bouquet?

I really love all flowers, but my special favorites are sweet peas, chocolate cosmos, jasmine, tweedia, butterfly ranunculus and any fragrant, beautifully opening rose.

## Are there any unique flower pairings you'd like to see more of?

I'd love to see more tropical flowers—like heliconia or king protea—mixed in with lush, petaled varieties such as garden roses or peonies that help soften the tropical vibe.



### MEET

**Rachel Cho**  
Rachel Cho  
Floral Design

### ABOUT

Cho's fascination with florals began as a child in her mother's Bronx-based flower shop. Today, she designs bespoke arrangements for weddings and events of all sizes.

### WEBSITE

[RachelChoFlowers.com](http://RachelChoFlowers.com)



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### PRO TIPS

Secure your venue first, since it dictates your wedding date. It's hard to speak to vendors before having this essential info locked down.

Don't assume all of the planning responsibilities, but don't leave it all to your partner either. Your wedding is a great opportunity for you both to work together.



## What's the most creative boutonniere you've ever crafted for a couple?

One design that comes to mind was a boutonniere we created based on a couple's love of Sour Patch Kids. We wired and taped a hidden lemon candy into the arrangement.

## Do you have any cost-saving tips for couples on a tight floral budget?

Use lots of candles, and ask your venue if they provide votives or pillar candles in-house. Even if you keep your centerpieces on the small side to save money, candles help fill the space and provide ambient lighting.

## Is there an easy way for couples to repurpose flowers from the ceremony at the reception?

Altar arrangements are a no-brainer—they're self-contained and can be moved to a reception entryway, band stage or lounge.