

# Submerging your Centerpiece

Using this popular centerpiece, for your event.

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If you are anything like my most recent brides, you may be considering the popular look of submerged centerpiece. I am no florist, but this is certainly a task I think I can take on for my brides. I did a bit of research and some trial runs to see if I could help my brides out.

The first thing I began looking at was the type of flowers I would want to put into the centerpiece. Real versus artificial is also something to consider. One thing I discovered is that colored artificial flowers tint the water. The dyes from the flowers leak into the water causing the water to take on the color of the flowers. If this is not the intended effect, you must be aware and will probably need to plan for real flowers.

One thing I did learn is that pretty much everything looks great under water! I tried full stems of flowers such as orchids, as well as just the head of flowers such as open roses, I also tried this look with plastic fruit in monochromatic colors, as well as vines for a unique look. You can also play with the items that you place in the bottom of your container. For instance, if you fancy a natural look, river rock is great cover in the bottom of your centerpiece container.

I also learned a few lessons in trying these centerpieces out. The first thing I learned is that flowers like to float! If you have placed your flower (s) in a container filled with tap water, your flower will have the tendency to want to float to the surface, you will also notice that there are bubbles in the water. There are a few options to how you combat this phenomenon. The first thing we tried was using distilled water in the centerpiece. This served two functions, number one was it removed the bubbles from the water; the second function served here is the flowers no longer want to float to the water's surface. Depending on the number, and sizes of your centerpieces this may be a pricy option to bring water in for each centerpiece!

The second option you utilized for the centerpieces was weighting down the floral. This can be done in a couple of ways. The first way we weighted down the flowers was by using fishing weights. **FISHING WEIGHTS?!** Absolutely fishing weights work like a charm. Using a crimper, you can attach the fishing weight to the short stem of the flower. If using this option you will want to cover the bottom of your container so the weight will not be seen.

# *Expressions of You*

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The next option for the weighted or secured floral is to glue the object to the bottom of the container. The purpose of this option is to allow your flower to remain rooted to the place you intend as well as keep it standing upright for the duration of the evening! Again, with this option, you will want to use some filler to cover the bottom of your container or your guests may be curious about how your flower is remaining stationary!

To add a bit of additional flair to your centerpiece, consider using specialty lighting. For instance, many brides are using LED lighting to place under the centerpiece to up light the design. For a similar effect, there are also submergible LED lights. For these to get color saturation you will probably need 2-3, as they tend to put out just a bit of light.

In the centerpiece, you may also utilize Aqua Gel, or Aqua Beads. Both of these mediums are gel-like substances soak up water to expand and fill your centerpiece container. These two gel options will also help add drama to the lighting effect of your centerpiece.

For something off the beaten path, you might also try strings of crystals, or Christmas ornaments. Truly you are only limited to your imagination.

No matter what you choose to submerge in your centerpiece there are many options for making it spectacular. Try different flower options and many different ideas for your filler. Play with the lighting and the result is bound to be great.