

Arrange flowers at an event entrance by choosing a clear position, a stable vessel and blooms that suit the space. Build an arrangement that guests can see easily without blocking the door, signs or accessible routes.

Begin with the space

Stand where guests will first arrive and look toward the entrance. Notice the width of the doorway, the direction it opens and the path people will take once inside. A generous arrangement can feel welcoming, but it should leave plenty of room for people carrying bags, using mobility aids or pausing to greet one another.

Check with the venue before placing anything near a doorway. Fire exits and other required routes must remain clear, and the venue may have rules about attaching decorations to walls or doors. If space is tight, a single arrangement on a sturdy table just inside the entrance can make more sense than flowers on both sides.

Think about the view from outside and inside. An arrangement against a wall may need its fullest face turned toward arriving guests. One on a central table should look considered from every side.

Choose flowers and a vessel

Pick a vessel with a wide, stable base and enough room for water. A heavy vase or a container placed securely inside a decorative pot is less likely to tip if someone brushes past. Keep the vessel in scale with its setting: a small vase can disappear on a large table, while a tall one may obscure a welcome sign.

Choose flowers that fit the mood of the event and the light at the entrance. Pale blooms can stand out in a dim hallway, while deeper colors can hold their own in bright daylight. Foliage gives the arrangement shape and helps fill the space between flowers.

Consider fragrance as well. An entrance is a shared space, and a strongly scented display may be uncomfortable for some guests. Flowers with a gentler scent, mixed with foliage, can be a considerate choice.

Build and place the arrangement

Fill the clean vessel with water, then cut the stems before arranging them. Start with foliage to establish the width and height. Add larger flowers next, placing them at varied heights rather than lining them up. Finish with smaller blooms to soften gaps and draw the eye through the arrangement.

Step back as you work. The flowers should feel connected to the doorway without competing with it. Turn the vessel and check for bare patches, especially if guests will pass on more than one side.

Place the finished arrangement away from direct heat and strong sun if possible. Before guests arrive, check the water level, wipe away spills and make sure the vessel is secure. If the event lasts several hours, ask someone to check the flowers and the floor around them.

Questions about entrance flowers

How tall should the arrangement be?

There is no fixed height. Choose one that is visible in the space but does not hide signs, obstruct sightlines or make the vessel unstable.

Can I arrange the flowers the day before?

Yes, if the flowers are kept in fresh water in a cool place. Check their condition and water level before moving them to the entrance.

Worth a look: full guide