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How to create an Irresistible Valentine's Day Centerpiece

By Candee Stark

How to create an Irresistible Valentine's Day Centerpiece

by: **Candee Stark**

Valentine's Day is just around the corner which of course makes us think of love, romance and of course flowers! It seems this special day wouldn't be complete without them. Flowers touch our souls and brighten our spirits which is why they have remained a popular choice for "lovebirds" all over the world!

Depending on your mood and the flowers you pick, you can make this arrangement whimsical or elegant, so gather what you need and let's get started!

Supplies: Store bought heart shaped basket (about 4 inches deep) Florist foam Plastic lining Flowers ~at least two varieties Larger flowers (all same color) such as carnations or roses for center and filler flowers for accent

Follow these simple steps to create your own Valentine's Day Centerpiece: Line heart shaped basket with heavy plastic Cut a piece of florist foam in the shape of a heart~ foam should fill up entire basket Soak foam in water and place it in the basket Cut center flowers (carnations or roses) the same depth as the basket or slightly longer. Stick these flowers into the foam in the shape of a heart~fill with enough flowers so no foam is showing. Cut accent flowers to the same length and fill in around the heart shaped flowers until the basket is completely filled and no foam is showing. Flowers should be flush with the top of the basket or slightly higher

~Create this centerpiece for yourself or make one for someone you care about. It will be sure to bring a smile to their face because they will know it was made with love!~

Happy Valentine's Day! Visit me at <http://www.flowers-and-garden.com/> for all of your gardening and flower delivery needs~for Valentine's Day and all year long!

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The Origin and History of Valentine's Day

By Tony Luck

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Why We Celebrate Valentine's Day..

The oldest Valentine card still in existence was sent in 1415 by Charles Duke of Orleans, at the time a prisoner in the Tower of London, to his wife. The Valentine's card is now preserved and displayed in the British Museum.

However, the origins of Valentine's Day lie in ancient Rome. Over the years the ever expanding Roman empire became more difficult to police and there was an increasing shortage of soldiers. Believing that married men were too attached to their families and unlikely to sign up, Emperor Claudius II banned marriage, thinking this would increase the number of quality recruits.

The story goes that a Christian priest by the name of Valentine, seeing the unhappiness and trauma that resulted, secretly married couples in defiance of the new law.

It wasn't long before Emperor Claudius found out about Valentine's actions and the priest was imprisoned and eventually executed on February 14th, 270.

Whilst in prison, Valentine was befriended by his jailer, a character called Asterius. Asterius had a blind daughter and the jailer asked Valentine to cure her, which he did. Shortly before his execution, Valentine asked for writing implements and signed a farewell message to the jailer's daughter "From your Valentine", a phrase that has lived on, much to the delight of modern day florists, rose growers and card companies!

Tony Luck runs a site with advice for moms-to-be and new moms. Included is the fascinating [chinese pregnancy calendar](#) which is supposed to tell you whether the baby you are expecting will be a boy or girl, and a [conception chart](#) to tell you when baby is expected.

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