

## Floral Tips for Spring/Summer from Colin Cowie, Lifestyle Floral & Decor Service

We're lifting the colors straight from the new leaves, from the spring flowers, from the new shoots of grass directly to the table and the dresses. How much more luscious can you get than an iridescent green raw silk? Put it together with the wonderful fuchsia that is like the first colorful flowers - even a gold for that matter - anything contrasted with this color represents growth.

I'd like to identify the freshest colors for this spring. It's bright green and watermelon and mango, fuchsia and saffron. They smell exotic and delicious; they smell of youth and new life. And of course, these colors work wonderfully as well. It doesn't mean to say that you're tied down to these colors. I mean, take a shot of lilac, or take a shot of bright purple, and pair it with lime green. For a very clean look, match white with lime green. Remember that spring is a time to play with colors.

I love talking of flowers. I love the yellow daffodils, they're one of my favorite flowers for spring. I love orchids because they are really durable and you get these vibrant, luscious colors which are perfect for our trend colors. There are really exotic cattleya orchids, the jasper orchid, the orange dendrobiums, and then of course that wonderful chartreuse green cymbidiums, yellow zen oncidium, and used on their own with a nice bright camellia leaf goes a long way.

For the bouquet, you could use a combination of those brilliant flowers with those gorgeous bright green leaves, perhaps tie the bouquet with crystals so that it looks enchanted. There's also a wonderful bright green rose for the first time. A lime rose, it's fabulous to work with.

What I love right now for centerpieces, which are very pretty to work with - are shallow bowls of water or colored water with floating water lilies, also very effective with a couple of candles.