

The 2026 Couple's Guide to Wedding Bouquet Preservation



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Bupp Woodworks & Designs

Why should you preserve your bouquet?

Your wedding bouquet holds the flowers from one of the most meaningful days of your life. A lot of time, thought, and money goes into your beautiful flowers and arrangements. Preserving it allows those memories to live on long after the wedding day. A forever reminder of the moment you got to marry the love of your life, surrounded by your family and friends.

What happens to the flowers after the wedding?

Even before the big event, your flowers go through a lot. From being picked on the farm, then shipped to the florist, they are then processed, arranged, and transported again to the event. After your wedding, your flowers will eventually wilt quickly, lose color, petals detach, and stems begin to rot.

After the big day, most flowers are often discarded by the venue- though we highly encourage arranging for someone to donate extra arrangements to places like local hospitals, nursing homes, senior living centers, and women's shelters. They are always greatly appreciated.

The most important first 24 hours:

After your wedding, it is vital to take care of your bouquet to prolong its life. Make sure to always keep it in a vase with fresh water. Store it in a cool place (but not in the refrigerator), out of direct sunlight, do not wrap it in plastic, and keep away from pets.

The preservation process:

If you are interested in preserving your wedding bouquet, our process is simple.

1. Reserve your date
2. Ship or drop off your bouquet 1-5 days after the event
3. Professional drying process
4. Floral layout design sent for your approval
5. Handcrafted preservation keepsakes created
6. Ship or pick up your finished order

Different bouquet preservation methods:

There are several different ways that flowers are preserved. These include:

- air drying- hanging upside down is simple, but often times colors drastically lose color, and flowers will slightly wilt or look more antique
- silica sand- this professional method keeps their natural shape and colors stay vibrant, perfect for 3D type keepsakes
- pressing- a professional method used for flat items such as pressed frames, coasters, vanity trays, ornaments etc. Flowers petals are often disassembled, pressed, and then reassembled for optimal results

Popular preservation keepsakes:

While we offer over 50 different handcrafted keepsakes for every style and budget, some of our most popular items include our famous wood serving tray, clear acrylic serving tray, wood and resin tables, 10" hexagon, 10" square, bookends, and 11" arch. Some trending items also include our pressed frames, wall hangings, and shadow boxes.

Smaller items make great gifts for your family, friends, wedding party, and yourself. Our most popular add-on keepsakes include the ring holder, bookmark, ornament, necklace, jewelry dish, coasters, candle holders, and letter.



Common mistakes couples make:

1. Waiting too long to ship/drop off flowers
2. Storing the bouquet without water
3. Putting the bouquet in the fridge or freezer
4. Leaving the bouquet in extreme hot or cold conditions
5. Trying to DIY their preservation first
6. Waiting until after the event to reach out to a preservation company

When to book your preservation:

We only accept a handful of bouquets per week, so we do have limited availability. We highly suggest booking your date several months ahead of time to ensure your spot is saved. Certain months, especially in the summer and fall, always fill the fastest.

Booking ahead of time also ensures that you can easily create a plan when it comes time to ship or drop off your bouquet. No rushing around and frantically trying to find the right supplies, or trying to find someone to drop them off to us in time. Planning ahead will greatly ease the stress of your already very busy weekend.



Real couple stories:

“We shipped our wedding flowers from Hawaii to Chicago and were blown away with what we received. SO grateful for Bupp Woodworks and the beautiful pieces they created from our wedding. Absolutely worth the wait, now we’ll forever get to keep those precious memories. If you’re thinking about booking with them, definitely do it. It’s more than worth it, they’re so good at what they do. We can’t thank you enough and love them so much.” - Alex



*“Truly the most stunning way to keep your flowers forever, the wait and investment is SO worth it! Tina was so communicative throughout the entire process. She sent regular updates and was always very quick to respond to my questions. And as you can see, she is truly an artist! I’m so happy with how everything turned out and I would do it again in a heartbeat. Thank you so much!”
-Tali*

How to reserve your date:

Did you know you don't even have to know who your florist is yet to book your spot? Once you know your wedding date, you can reserve it with us! Also, if you happen to need to change your date later on, we can also accommodate that.

The process is simple- check out our [Pricing](#) page to figure out which keepsakes you're interested in. Then fill out our [Wedding Booking Form](#). We will email you within 24 hours with an invoice and further instructions on how to pay your deposit. A \$100 deposit is all you need to reserve your future date!

If you are unsure of what keepsakes you want, you can always book your spot with a smaller item, and upgrade the size/shape later on.

Also, if bouquet preservation is something you want, but it may not be in your budget, make sure to add it to your wedding registry! A lot of wedding websites have cash funds (similar to a honeymoon or home renovation fund) that your family and friends can contribute to. We also offer online gift cards that you can recommend as a gift option for your wedding shower.



Wedding Flower Preservation Checklist:

- Add preservation fund to wedding registry, or suggest e-gift cards
- Reserve your wedding date
- Keep bouquet in fresh water at all times
- Keep bouquet away from extreme heat or cold, avoid direct sunlight
- Arrange for someone to ship or drop off your flowers 1-5 days after the event

Let us know if you have any questions, we would love to make you an heirloom piece of art to cherish forever!

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McHenry, IL - Accepting fresh, dried, and artificial flowers from across the USA

