



Study outline for CCF Applicants

The California Certified Florist exam is a self taught program that is based on a selection of study materials and is supported by selected California State Colleges. Information regarding these schools can be found online. Hands on components are described below, after the ID list.

Written Exam Components

This study outline is based on the following suggested study materials and the Flower and Plant ID list below:

The AIFD Guide to Floral Design

Published by The American Institute of Floral Designers

The Art of Floral Design

By Norah T. Hunter

Principles of Floral Design

By Pat Diehl Scace and James DelPrince

Farm and Flower Guide

Produced by The California Cut Flower Commission

Flower and Plant Care

Published by The Society of American Florists

Applicants must be able to identify and apply the knowledge of the topics listed below.

Care and Handling of Cut Flowers

Recognize and understand the importance of the following basic treatment procedures for cut flower materials.

- water quality
- proper stem treatment
- storage procedures
- flower conditioning
- special care for tropical flowers and woody stems
- commonly used chemicals and their applications

History of Floral Design

Understand and recall all major historical periods in Floral Design as well as contemporary design styles and trends as well as recognize their distinguished design characteristics.



Principles and Elements of Design

Recognize and define the basic principles and elements of design and understand how they are used in commercial floristry.

Explain and understand the application and use of color and color theory.

Principles of Design:

- Balance
- Dominance (Emphasis, Focal Area, Accent)
- Rhythm (Depth, Repetition, Transition)
- Proportion(Scale)
- Contrast (Opposition, Tension, Variation)

Elements of Design:

- Line
- Form
- Space
- Texture
- Pattern
- Fragrance
- Size
- Color

Mechanics

Identify the following mechanics and aids used in their application:

tapes: corsage tape, bowl or anchor tape

foams: wet and dry floral foam, Styrofoam, floral clay

wires: bind wire, paddle wire, decorative wire, indentify floral wire gauges

pins: corsage pins, anchor pins, steel pins

picks: wired wood pick, hyacinth pick, skewer , candle pick, water pick

adhesives: hot glue, cold glue, floral adhesive

other mechanics: cable ties, pipe cleaners, water tubes, pew clips, casket saddle, iglu, easel, polyfoil, bouquet holder, waxed string, ribbon, strings, fiber

Techniques

Recognize and describe the following design techniques as listed below:

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| Air taping | Framing | Shadowing |
| Armature use | grouping | Sheltering |
| Baling | Hand-tying | Spiraling |
| Banding | Kubari | Spray gluing |
| Basing | Layering | Stacking |
| Binding | Pave | Terracing |
| Clustering | Picking | Weaving |



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| Collaring | Pillowing | Zoning |
| Facing | Reflexing | |

Flower and Plant Identification Test

Below you will find the **ID Master List**, a list of 100 flower and plant materials will be selected each year for more focused study for that year's exam.

The selection from this listing of flowers and foliage must be identified and labeled with both, common names and botanical names. The common name will be written and the botanical name selected from a list that will be provided. Each year in July the subset of this list will be published for your study. The exam will contain 50 flowers and plants to identify. See the website for a link to the 100 list for this year.

| Botanical (Genus) Name | Common Name |
|------------------------|--|
| Achillea | Yarrow, Cottage Yarrow |
| Aconitum | Monkshood, Aconite |
| Aechmea | Bromeliads, Aechmea, Guzmania, Urn Plant |
| Agapanthus | Agapanthus, Lily-of-the-Nile, African lily |
| Ageratum Sp. | Ageratum, Blue Floss flower |
| Alchemilla | Lady's Mantle |
| Allium | Allium, Onion Flower, Flowering Onion, Giant Onion |
| Alpinia | Ginger, Shell Ginger |
| Alstroemeria | Alstroemeria, Alstro, Peruvian Lily |
| Amaranthus | Amaranthus, Amaranth, Love-lies-bleeding |
| Amaryllis | Belladonna Lily, Naked Lady, Amaryllis |
| Ammi | Queen Anne's lace, Bishop's Weed |
| Ananas | Ornamental Pineapple, Dwarf Pineapple |
| Anemone | Anemone, Windflower |
| Anigozanthos | Kangaroo paw |
| Anthurium | Anthurium, Flamingo flower |
| Antirrhinum | Snapdragon |
| Aquilegia | Columbine |
| Asclepias | Milkweed, Butterfly Weed |



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| Aster ericoides | Monte Casino, Heath Aster, Spray Aster |
| Aster Novi Belgi | Novi-Belgi Aster |
| Astilbe | Astilbe, False spirea, Meadowsweet |
| Astrantia major | Astrantia, Masterwort, Hattie's Pincushion |
| Atriplex lumex | Dock, Lumex |
| Banksia | Banksia, Protea, Bird's Nest |
| Boronia | Boronia |
| Boronia | Heather Baronia, Baronia |
| Bouvardia | Bouvardia |
| Brassica | Kale, Flowering Kale, Ornamental Kale |
| Brunia | Brunia |
| Buddleja | Butterfly Bush |
| Bupleurum | Bupleurum |
| Calathea lancifolia | Rattlesnake Plant, Calathea |
| Calendula | Pot Marigold |
| Callicarpa | Beauty Berry |
| Callistephus | China Aster, Aster, Matsumoto Aster |
| Camellia | Chinese Rose, Camelia |
| Campanula | Bell Flower, Chimney Bells |
| Capsicum annum | Ornamental Pepper |
| Carthamus | Safflower, False Saffron |
| Cattleya | Cattleya Orchid |
| Celastrus | Bittersweet |
| Celosia (crinata) | Cockscomb |
| Celosia (plumosa) | Celosia, Chinese Wool Flower |
| Centaurea (cyanus) | Cornflower, Bachelor's Button |
| Centaurea (macrocephala) | Globe cornflower |
| Centranthus ruber | Valerian |
| Chaenomeles | Flowering Quince |
| Chamelaucium | Waxflower |
| Chelone | Turtlehead |



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|------------------------------|---|
| Chrysanthemum (Dendranthema) | Daisy Spray Chrysanthemum, Daisy Mum |
| Chrysanthemum (Dendranthema) | Button Pompon Chrysanthemum, Button Mum |
| Chrysanthemum (Dendranthema) | Spider Pompon |
| Chrysanthemum (Dendranthema) | Disbud Chrysanthemum, Football Mum, China Mum, Spider Mum |
| Clarkia | Godetia, Farewell-to-spring |
| Clematis | Clematis, Old Man's Beard, Traveler's Joy, Virgin's Bower |
| Clivia miniata | Clivia, Kaffir Lily |
| Coleonema | Diosma, Breath of Heaven |
| Consolida | Larkspur, Annual Delphinium |
| Convallaria | Lily of the Valley |
| Coreopsis | Coreopsis, Tickseed |
| Cosmos | Cosmos |
| Craspedia | Billy buttons, Craspedia |
| Crocosmia | Crocosmia, Montbretia |
| Cymbidium | Cymbidium Orchid |
| Cynara | Globe Artichoke |
| Cytisus | Genista, Broom, Sweet Broom |
| Cytisus x praecox Albus | Genestra, White Genista |
| Dahlia | Dahlia |
| Daucus | Chocolate Lace, Black Lace |
| Delphinium | Delphinium |
| Dendrobium | Dendrobium, Dendro, Singapore Orchid |
| Dianthus | Carnation, Standard Carnation |
| Dianthus | Mini Carnation, Carnation Spray |
| Dianthus barbatus | Sweet William |
| Didicus coeruleus | Blue Lace Flower |
| Digitalis | Foxglove |
| Echinacea | Echinacea, Purple Coneflower |



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| Echinops | Globe Thistle |
| Eremurus | Eremurus, Foxtail Lily, Desert Candle, King's Spear |
| Erica | Heather, Heath |
| Eryngium | Eryngium, Sea Holly |
| Euphorbia | Euphorbia |
| Eustoma | Lisianthus, Prairie Gentian, Texas Bluebell |
| Forsythia | Forsythia, Golden Bells |
| Freesia | Freesia |
| Fritillaria | Checkered Lily, Guinea Flower, Fritillaria |
| Fuchsia | Fuchsia |
| Gaillardia | Gaillardia, Blanket Flower |
| Galanthus | Snow Drop |
| Gardenia | Gardenia, Cape Jasmine |
| Gentiana | Gentian |
| Gerbera | Gerbera, Transvaal Daisy |
| Gilia capitata | Blue Thimble Flower |
| Gladiolus | Gladiola, Gladiolus |
| Gloriosa | Gloriosa Lily, Glory Lily, Climbing Lily |
| Gomphocarpus brasiliensis | Milkweed, Balloon Plant |
| Gomphrena | Globe Amaranth |
| Gypsophila | Baby's Breath, Gypsophila |
| Helianthus | Sunflower |
| Heliconia | Heliconia |
| Helleborus | Lenten Rose, Hellebore, Christmas Rose |
| Hippeastrum | Amaryllis, Barbados lily |
| Hyacinthus | Hyacinth, Dutch Hyacinth |
| Hydrangea | Hydrangea, Hortensia |
| Hypericum | Hypericum, St. John's Wort, Coffee Bean |
| Iberis | Candytuft |
| Iris (Dutch) | Iris, Dutch iris |
| Ixia | Ixia, Corn Lily, African Corn Lily |



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| Kniphofia | Torch Lily, Red Hot Poker |
| Lathyrus | Sweet pea |
| Lavandula | Lavender |
| Leptospermum | Leptospermum, Tea Tree, New Zealand Tea Tree |
| Leucadendron | Leucadendron, Silver tree, Flame tip |
| Leucanthemum | Shasta Daisy |
| Leucospermum | Leucospermum, Pincushion Protea |
| Liatris | Liatris, Gay feather, Blazing star |
| Lillum | Asiatic lily |
| Lillum | Oriental lily, Stargazer lily |
| Limonium | Caspia, Misty, Statice |
| Lupinus | Lupine |
| Lysimachia | False Dragonhead, Gooseneck Flower, Lysmachia |
| Magnolia | Magnolia (Star magnolia) |
| Matthiola Incana | Stock, Gillyflower |
| Moluccella | Bells-of-Ireland, Shellflower |
| Muscari | Grape Hyacinth |
| Myosotis sylvatica | Forget Me Not |
| Narcissus | Narcissus, Daffodil |
| Narcissus | Paper Whites, Paper White Narcissus |
| Nerine | Nerine, Guernsey Lily |
| Nigella | Nigella, Love-in-a-Mist |
| Nymphaea | Waterlily |
| Oncidium | Oncidium, Dancing Lady Orchid |
| Ornithogalum | Chincherinchee, Star of Bethlehem |
| Oxypetalum caeruleum | Tweedia |
| Ozothamnus | Rice Flower |
| Paeonia | Peony |
| Papaver | Poppy, Iceland Poppy |
| Paphiopedilum | Lady's Slipper Orchid |
| Parthenium sp./ Tanacetum | Feverfew |



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| Penstemon | Beardtongue, Penstemon |
| Phalaenopsis | Phalaenopsis, Moth Orchid |
| Phlox | Phlox |
| Physalis | Chinese Lantern |
| Platycodon grandiflorus | Balloon Flower |
| Polianthes tuberosa | Tuberose |
| Protea | Protea |
| Ranunculus | Ranunculus, Persian Buttercup |
| Rosa | Standard Rose, Rose, Tea Rose |
| Rosa | Spray Rose |
| Rudbeckia | Cone Flower, Black-eyed Susan, Gloriosa Daisy |
| Saintpaulia | African Violet |
| Salvia splendens | Sage, Salvia |
| Sandersonia | Sandrsonia |
| Saponaria | Saponaria, Annual Gyp. |
| Sarracenia | Pitcher Plant, Sarracenia, Swamp Lily, Cobra Lily |
| Scabiosa | Scabiosa, Pincushion Flower |
| Sedum | Sedum, Stonecrop |
| Serruria | Serruria, Blushing Bride |
| Solidago | Solidago, Goldenrod |
| Solidaster | Solidaster, Yellow Aster |
| Spirea | Spirea, Bridal Wreath |
| Stephanotis floribunda | Stephanotis, Madagascar Jasmine |
| Strelitzia | Bird-of-paradise |
| Symphoricarpos | Snowberry |
| Syringa | Lilac |
| Tagetes | Marigold, French Marigold |
| Thunbergia | Black-eyed-Susan Vine, Clock Vine |
| Trachelium | Throatwort, Blue Throatwort, Trachelium |
| Trachymene | Didiscus, Blue Laceflower, Laceflower |
| Tricyrtis | Toad Lily |



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| Triticum | Wheat |
| Tulipa | Tulip |
| Veronica | Veronica, Speedwell |
| Vibernum 'Roseum' | Viburnum, Snowball |
| Viola | Pansy |
| Xeranthemum | Strawflower |
| Zantedeschia | Calla, Calla lily, Arum lily, |
| Zinnia | Zinnia, Youth-and-old-age |
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| Botanical Name (Genus) | Common Name |
| Foliage and Botanical | |
| Abies | Noble Fir |
| Acacia | Acacia, Knifeblade Acacia |
| Acacia | Silver wattle, Mimosa |
| Actinidia | Kiwi Fruit Vine, Kiwi Vine |
| Acuba japonica | Acuba |
| Adiantum | Maidenhair Fern |
| Alocasia | Alocasia, African Mask |
| Antherium | Antherium |
| Arctostaphylos | Manzanita |
| Artemisia | Sagebush, Artemisia |
| Asparagus (asparagoides) | Smilax |
| Asparagus (plumosus) | Plumosa Fern, Lace Fern |
| Asparagus (pyramidalis) | Tree Fern |
| Asparagus meyeri | Foxtail Fern, Meyeri |
| Asparagus retrofractus | Ming Fern |
| Aspidistra | Aspidistra, Cast-iron Plant |
| Asplenium nidus | Bird's Nest Fern |
| Atriplex hortensis | Saltbush |
| Bruxus | Boxwood, Box, Oregonia |
| Caladium | Angel's Wings, Elephant's Ear |



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| Calathea species | Zebra Plant, Peacock Leaf |
| Caleocedrus decurrens | California Incense Cedar. Incense Cedar |
| Callistemon | Bottle-Brush Plant |
| Camellia | Camellia |
| Centaurea ragusina | Dusty Miller |
| Chaenomeles | Flowering Quince |
| Chamaedorea | Commadore, Parlour Palm |
| Codiaeum | Croton |
| Cordyline | Ti, Ti Leaf |
| Cotinus | Smoke Tree, Smoke Bush |
| Cryptanthus | Cryptanthus |
| Cycas revoluta | Cycad, Sago Palm |
| Cyperus | Papyrus |
| Cytisus | Scotch Broom, Broom |
| Dicranopteris linearis | Fern Fiddleheads |
| Diffenbachia | Diffenbachia, Dumb cane |
| Dracaena | Dracaena |
| Dracaena sanderiana | Dracaena, Lucky Bamboo |
| Echeveria | Echeveria, Hens and Chicks |
| Equisetum | Equisetum, Horse Tail, Snake Grass, Scouring Rush |
| Eucalyptus pressiana | Flowering Eucalyptus, Mount Wellington peppermint, Tasmanian snow gum |
| Eucalyptus sp. | Spiral Eucalyptus, Baby Blue Eucalyptus |
| Eucalyptus sp. | Seeded Eucalyptus |
| Eucalyptus sp. | Silver Dollar Eucalyptus |
| Eucalyptus sp. | Willow Eucalyptus- Agonis |
| Euonymus | Euonymus |
| Euphorbia marginata | Euphorbia, Snow on the Mountain |
| Fatsia | Japanese Aralia, Fatsia |
| Galax | Galax |
| Gaultheria | Salal, Lemonleaf |



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| Hedera | Ivy |
| Heuchera | Coral Bells |
| Hosta | Hosta |
| Hoya | Hoya |
| Ilex | Holly, American Holly |
| Juniperus | Juniper |
| Laurus nobilis | Laurel |
| Liriope | Lily grass |
| Lycopodium | Lycopodium, Club moss, Ground pine |
| Magnolia | Magnolia |
| Mahonia | Mahonia, Oregon Grape |
| Malus | Crabapple |
| Maranta | Prayer plant |
| Mentha | Mint |
| Monstera | Monstera, Swiss Cheese Plant, Cutleaf Philodendron |
| Myrtus | Myrtle, Greek Myrtle |
| Nandina | Nandina, Heavenly bamboo |
| Nephrolepis (cordifolia) | Sword Fern, Oregon Fern? |
| Pandanus | Hala, Screw Pine |
| Peperomia obtusifolia variegata | Variegated Peperomia |
| Philodendron Xanadu | Philodendron Xanadu |
| Phormium | Flax, New Zealand Flax |
| Pinus strobus | White Pine |
| Pittosporum | Pittosporum, Pitt, Australian laurel, Mock orange, Japanese mock orange |
| Platycterium bifurcatum | Staghorn Fern |
| Podocarpus | Podocarpus, Tropical Yew, Buddhist Pine |
| Polystichum | Sword Fern, Shield Fern |
| Prunus | Flowering Plum, Flowering Almond, Flowering Peach, Flowering Cherry |
| Pseudotsuga menziesii | Douglas Fir |



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| Pteris Cretica | Brake Fern |
| Rhamnus | Rhamnus, Buckthorn, Italian Buckthorn |
| Rosmarinus officinalis | Rosemary |
| Rumohra | Leather Fern, Leatherleaf, Baker Fern |
| Ruscus sp. | Israeli Ruscus |
| Ruscus sp. | Ruscus, Italian Ruscus |
| Sabal | Palmeto palm |
| Salix | Curly willow, Fasciated Willow, Dragon-claw Willow, Corkscrew Willow |
| Salix | Pussy Willow |
| Sanseveria | Mother in Law Tongue |
| Schinus molle | California Pepper Berry |
| Senecio cineraria 'Diamond' | Dusty Miller Diamond Frost |
| Senecio rowleyanus | String-of-pearls, String-of-beads |
| Setaria italica | Foxtail Millet |
| Sorghum | Broom Corn |
| Stachys | Lamb's Ear |
| Syngonium podophyllum | Arrowhead plant |
| Tillandsia | Tillandsia, Air plant |
| Typha | Cattails |
| Vaccinium | Huckleberry |
| Viburnum | Viburnum Berries |
| Xerophyllum | Bear Grass |
| Zamia pumila | Cycad, Coontie Fern |

Hands on Exam

Applicants must demonstrate:

- Good organizational skills

- Good time management skills.

- Applicants must finish all five designs within the time allotted.

- Good use of the materials that are provided.



Corsage

Applicants must demonstrate a proficiency in:

- Selection of appropriate materials.
- Wiring and taping flowers and greens.
- Gluing techniques.
- Bow making.
- Clean, solid and secure construction techniques.
- Artistic/saleable design
- Demonstration of appropriate design principals and elements.

Hand tied wedding bouquet

Applicants must demonstrate:

- Appropriate selection of materials.
- Clean, solid and secure construction techniques.
- Well defined and secure binding point.
- Clean stems below the binding point.
- Professional finishing techniques.
- Demonstration of appropriate design principals and elements.

Duplication Design

Applicants must demonstrate:

- Ability to duplicate a sample design.
- Clean, solid and secure mechanics.
- Demonstration of appropriate design principals and elements.

Sympathy Spray

Applicants must demonstrate:

- Appropriate choice of materials.
- Pleasing, professional design.
- Clean, solid and secure mechanics.
- A well finished design on all sides.
- Design must be properly secured to the easel.
- Demonstration of appropriate design principals and elements.

Designers Choice

Applicants must demonstrate:

- Creativity.
- Appropriate choice of materials.
- Clean, solid and secure mechanics.
- Demonstration of appropriate design principals and elements.
- Appropriate selection of materials.