

Characteristics of Floral Designs for Rose Shows

Traditional Line Designs have height and some width, but very little depth except in the focal areas. They are open silhouettes in space and have length, strength and beauty. They show movement in one direction. The line may be vertical, horizontal, crescent, Hogarth (S) curve, zigzag, oblique or triangular with right-handed or left-handed variants.

Traditional Line Mass Designs have a dominant line with more plant material than a Line design. They may show gradual progression of bloom development. They have length, width and depth and show gradation of size or shape. They may show gradation of color, tint or shade.

Traditional Mass Designs are characterized by large quantities of plant material in a full, but not crowded, design. The strongest line, top, and auxiliary lines serve to lead the eye to the focal area near the rim of the container. They are usually either a symmetrical or asymmetrical triangle or oval in form.

Modern Abstract Designs are compositions of space, texture, color and form and are not constructed around a central focal area, but have several emergence points. Plant materials can be altered, manipulated and/or distorted and placed in a non-conventional manner. Abstraction is dominant and the design must have two or more abstract qualities. The rose bloom(s) should never be abstracted.

Modern Free Form Designs are irregular designs with a curving outline. They are inspired by nature and are non-geometric. Plant materials are used in a naturalistic way. These natural forms determine the pattern of the design. They may have more than one center of interest and more than one point of emergence.

East Asian Designs in a Low Container or Compote e.g., Shoka Shofutai, Shoka Shimputai & Moribana. The Moribana is naturalistic and has three main lines. The longest line has generous length. The second line is two-thirds the main line. The third line is one third the length of the main line. These designs are vertical, slanting or cascading. There should be depth and one-half to two-thirds of the container should show water. Foliage should not hang or droop into the water or rest on the lip of the container. The needlepoint is totally submerged in water and is placed off center and does not need to be covered completely with plant material. The Shoka Shofutai (Classical) and Shoka Shimputai (Contemporary) styles express the feelings of life, growing energy and the natural beauty of materials used.

East Asian Style Free Style Designs are placed in modern oriental style containers. The asymmetrical triangle is not required, but simplicity in construction is important. Roses are considered a mass of color. A leaf is a surface and may be smooth, rough, shiny, dull, clear or complex. Directions may be vertical, leaning, cascading, horizontal or a combination of any of these directions. Shapes and colors are very important in Oriental Free Style designs.

Excerpted from 2024 DSD/GRS Rose Show Guidelines