

A QUICK & EASY Autumn Harvest Centerpiece



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Now that autumn is in the air I thought what better way to use some chrysanthemums than in a cornucopia. Choose some mums of different sizes and colors. I used 5 smaller spider mums in my basket, but 5 of any larger type mum can be used along with up to 4 bunches of mums of your choice. Sound interesting? If so, let's get started!

Supplies you will need:

Flowers:

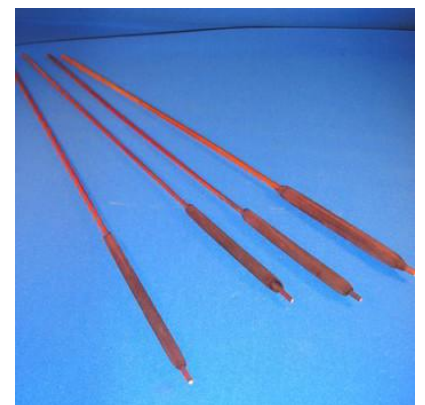
4 or 5 small bunches of mums along with 5 larger sized mums of your choosing.



Some autumn leaves if available, I used artificial for this arrangement since the leaves have not turned color yet.



A few cattails, if you can't find any, a hobby store should have some. That's where I got mine from. I used 5 cattails in my arrangement.



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Some artificial fruit, squash and corn, whatever you would like to use in your basket.



1 – Cornucopia basket of your choosing. It should be large enough to fit an oblong bowl or container at least $\frac{3}{4}$ of the way in. This one measures: 12" Long x 9" Wide x 9" High.



1-Piece of wood (if you need it) to hold the cornucopia up flat.



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1 – Container for your centerpiece. This one measures 10 ½" x 4 ¼" and fits a whole block of wet foam. These containers can be purchased at a local hobby and crafts store. The bowl should be able to fit up to ¾ of the way into the basket. If you are using an oblong bowl of your own, you might want to use florist's waterproof tape to attach the foam so it will stay in place.



1– Block of Wet foam. (We will be cutting off ¼ of the end)



Glue gun and glue.



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We're all set to put our arrangement together!

STEP 1: Glue the piece of wood to the bottom of the basket for stability. Also make sure the basket sits with the opening flat on the table. I had to place the wood far enough towards the front so that the basket would lie flat and steady.



STEP 2: Cut the foam so that it is only $\frac{3}{4}$ its size. Soak it in water while we prepare the bowl.

STEP 3: Insert the oblong bowl approximately $\frac{3}{4}$ of the way into the basket. I needed to cut a piece of foam to add to the smaller end of the bowl so it would be level with the basket. Now glue the bottom of the bowl to the inside of the basket.



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STEP 4: Now add the soaked foam into the bowl at the front end.

STEP 5: We will not start adding your fall leaves around the bowl to cover the bowl. Go all around the bowl, don't be stingy. The leaves when inserted into the foam extended the front of the arrangement to 13".



STEP 6: Now let's add some cattails and some corn husks. The cattails came almost to the end of the leaves. The husks about 1/2 to 3/4 the length of the cattails.



STEP 7: Take the five larger mums and place them in a line pattern with one at the back, one in the middle, one at the front and one on each side of the foam. I cut the mum as follows: Middle Mum - 7"; Front and Back - 6"; Sides - 3".

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STEP 8: Take the remaining mums and fill in the empty spaces. Don't be afraid to crowd them in a bit.



STEP 9: Take the artificial fruit and gourds and add them to the front and partly on the sides of the piece.



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STEP 10: Place the piece on a table and add a few leaves around it to hide the wood at the bottom of the basket.



CONGRATULATIONS!

You are all finished with our new arrangement (centerpiece). Now that wasn't so hard to do was it?

I hope you have enjoyed the lesson and get a chance to use it.

Please drop me a line, and let me know what other type of arrangements you might be interested in making.