

FLOWER

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CLICK HERE I came across a novice flower arranger when judging the competition within a floral art club recently. Her work was very pretty and perfectly symmetrical which in itself was an amazing achievement as natural plant material is usually not able to be so disciplined. But there was something missing, a design aspect she had not yet mastered and was completely unaware of. It was that all important concept of 'line'.

'Line' in flower arranging means the plant material is arranged so it leads your eye in a certain direction or directions. Without it you have a bunch of flowers sitting, looking pretty. With it you are able to introduce movement and rhythm. The arrangement becomes more dynamic and far more interesting.

This edition of floral design is therefore, all about line. Your wonderful *floral design* magazine team have been to some of the major flower shows to search out the best examples for you of successful designs with dominating lines. Now that should keep your design juices running for another month!

Happy arranging,

TRICIA LEGG EDITOR

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Four major exhibitions, four great correspondents working for you for this edition!



Canada Blooms
Toronto Canada
with Sandra and Victor
Froese

Pond and Lysice Castles Czech Republic with Pavol Kaššák Melbourne International Flower &Garden Show

Melbourne Australia with Vincent Wright

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MAXIMISE
THIS EDITION
For 6 more lines;
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SIX PROVEN LINE DIRECTIONS

QUALITY DESIGNS WHEN THE LINE IS

Circular 3

Radial 15

Vertical 39

Vertical Downwards 45

Vertical Upwards 6:

Horizontal 63



now to LISA BELISLE with

SVETLANA LUNIN how it had to the tricial LEGG

how to JACLYN GOUGH One of the ways to make every flower arrangement you create a success, is to plan the line or directions the plant material will take before you start.

There are many labels for these line directions depending on the country and school but they are used in all design including architecture.

horízontal

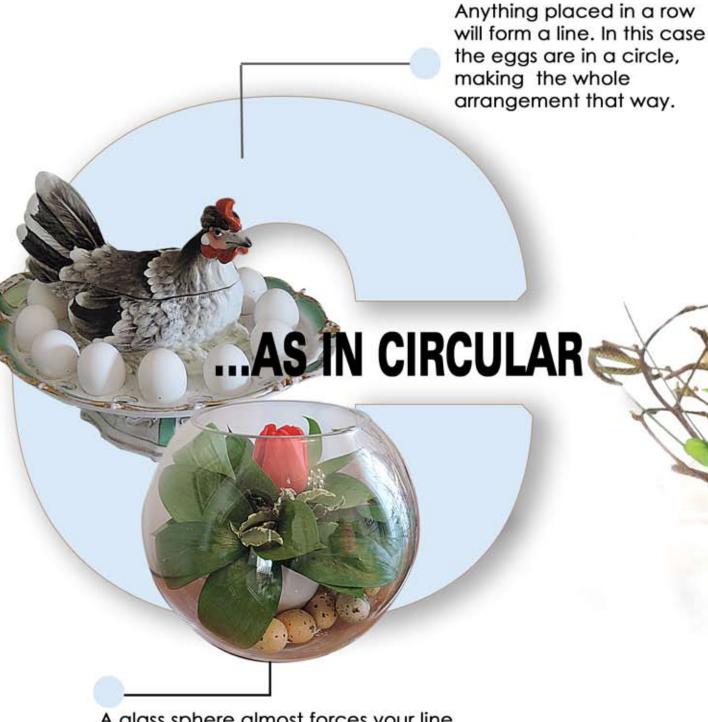
parallel spiral crescent bent winding curved

ríangular slanting radial radial freeform diagonal overlapping asymmetrical



Line circular /winding

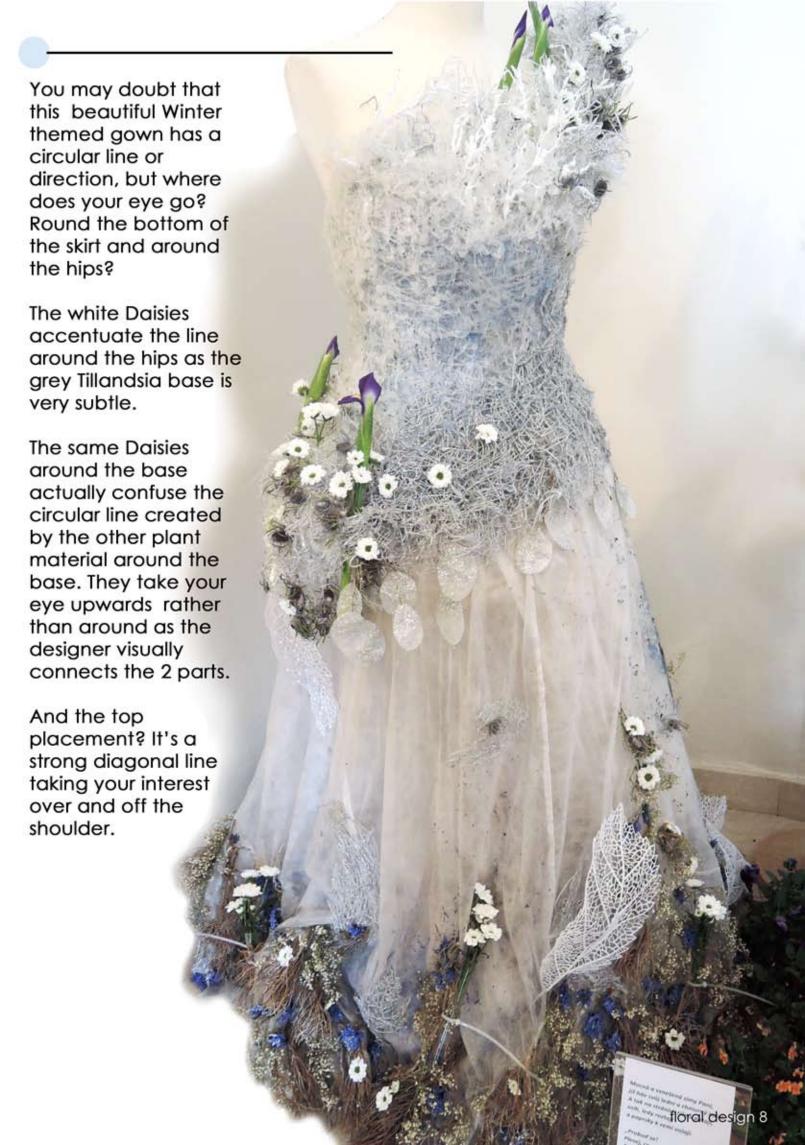
At the Spring exhibition in Pond castle near Lednice, Czech Republic, five great examples of a circular line in designs by the students from the Faculty of Horticulture were spotted.



A glass sphere almost forces your line and therefore your arrangement to be circular. if the foliage bends all in the same direction. It is very common to see Bear Grass curled around the inside with a single flower in the middle.







LISA BELISLE





American florist, Lisa Belisle continues her series with this second lesson, bringing you a unique perspective and style. Influenced by the ideas of many different teachers and cultures, she brings them together as this fabulous step by step lesson for you to try.

Lisa Belisle was awarded with ICPF credentials at the March Illinois Floral Design Show. To gain these credentials you have to complete nine on-line courses and four hands on classes to show your competency of both floral design and flower shop management.

Lisa passed with flying colors and wanted to be recognized as an Illinois Certified Professional Florist (ICPF) so that current and future students could recognize that education is her top priority and the understanding that we are never finished learning.

Her business is called Flora
Elements. It is a partnership of three women who have an intense love of Mother Nature. As well as continuing her own education Lisa is teaching floral design to beginners in the Chicago and Milwaukee areas of the USA.

"The floral industry is ever evolving and we must evolve with it and blossom."



The line direction of the wrist corsage is circular as your eye is drawn from one exquisite heart to the next right around the wrist.



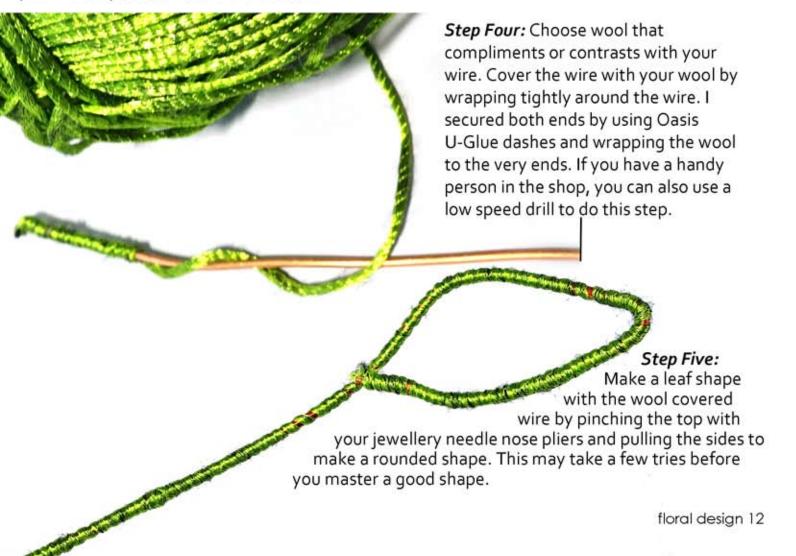




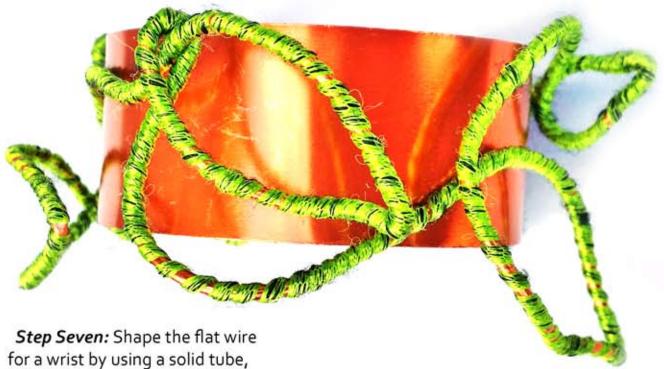
Step Two: Curl the ends up to make a tube shape using the filigree curling tool (you may also use your jewellery needle nose pliers, but it's not as even a finish). This prevents any cuts or scratches to the woman wearing the bracelet and provides you with a space to hide wire ends later.



Step Three: Cut 35" of metallic 12 gauge wire to compliment your flat wire.







Step Seven: Shape the flat wire for a wrist by using a solid tube, PVC pipe or a bracelet holder. Be gentle as you don't want any creases in the metal. Lightly place your wool leaves in one tube end and shape them to fit nicely over the flat wire. Place the second end in the tube; you may secure these ends with U-Glue dashes for added security.

Step Eight: Use cold glue to attach minimal flowers, foliage and succulent pieces to your bracelet. Place material where there is enough room for glue to adhere to. Don't be afraid to deconstruct flowers and just use parts of the petals, or use small berries and pieces of foliage. Remember you want to show off the actual jewellery and art work versus loading the bracelet with flowers to keep the dollar value high. In this piece I used King Protea, Cyclamen leaves, Hypericum, Hyacinth blossoms and Blueperium.





















The radiating line is a global favourite as proved by this much bigger arrangement seen at the Melbourne International Flower and Garden Show in Australia. It is easy to replicate if you know the sequence...

0

Secure a large bucket or similar into the top of the container and fill it with wet floral foam. Alternatively you can fill the container with old floral foam or newspapers and place new wet foam in the top section.

2

Add the sticks and long green blades at the back so they soar vertically to the height you want.

Add the Yellow Palm fronds on the left sideways and diagonally, and diagonally on the right



Loosely group large white Chrysanthemums in the right and Asiatic Lilies in Bud on the back right.

Group white Anthuriums forward at the front and 2 or 3 stunning huge Protea in the centre right and side.

3

Fill in the middle with large twigs of green, smooth leaved foliage. Add the Monstera leaf diagonally on the right.

Cascade downwards the green Amaranthus on the left and towards the right back.

5

Overlay the left with red Singapore Orchids so they come out as far as the Palm fronds right and centre.

Push 2 Helicona into the top at the back and you have a masterpiece in radial lines, Australian style.









WITH TRICIA LEGG Many internationally reknown florists speak of being inspired by Nature but I am sure they mean that they love the forms, smells, textures and colours of the amazing plant material all around them. But if you go a step further and search for examples of lines in Nature, a completely different perspective of this design element is revealed. Tricia Legg went hunting for examples of LINE in the floral design magazine garden. Once again she leads you down the garden path into the realm of the new and interesting where there are no rules, labels or conventions and only Nature's creations as guidance. floral design 29



Inspiration for a sideboard



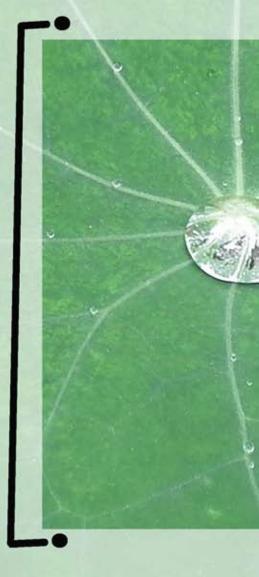
Many of Nature's leaves and flowers have a radial line, coming out from the centre.

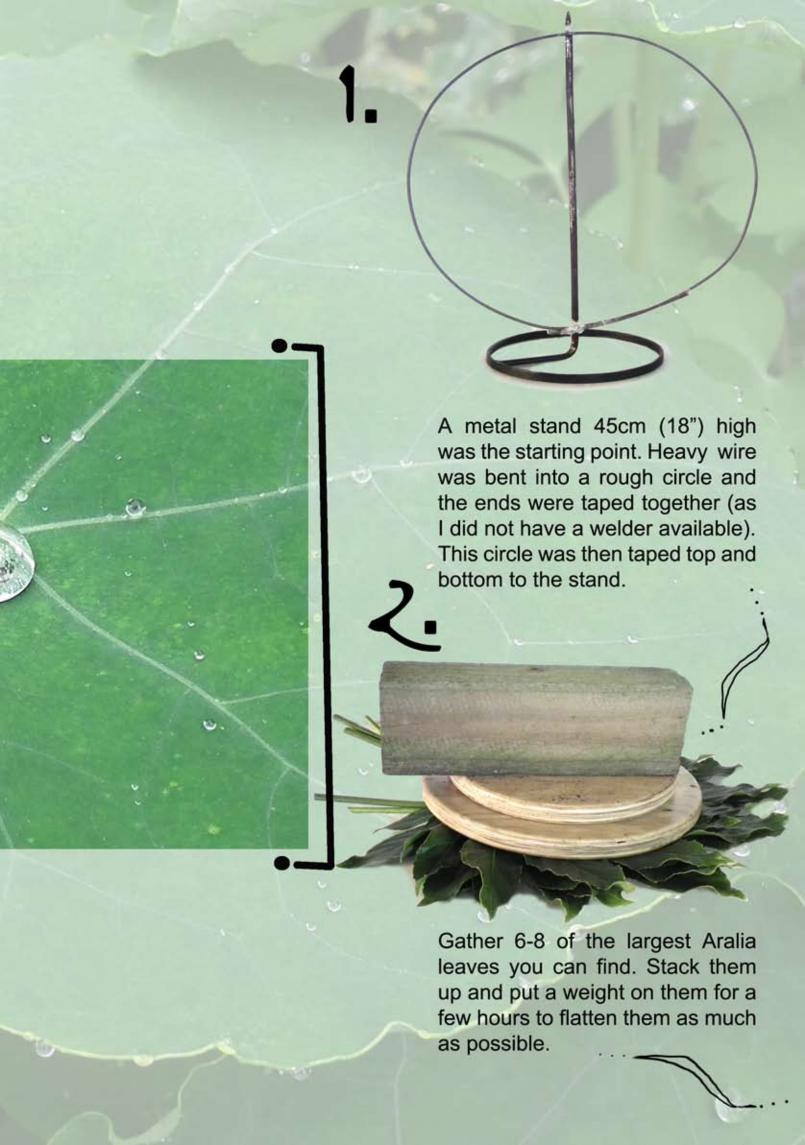




in the But foliage in particular those radial lines evenly aren't spaced. The veins stand out by being a different colour or raised, and backgrounds subtle have colour changes. So if the leaf is lovely so will be an arrangement if it's guidelines as a radial asymmetrical line are followed?

Let's find out!















Five sticks dyed lime green were used for the veins. Each went through the same hole naturally created by the overlapping Aralia leaves and wired in place. An asymmetrical focal point was chosen as on the original leaf the water drop and vein intersection was not in the centre.

From this point on every new piece of plant material was put in a rubber stoppered plastic tube filled with water. The tube was then pushed though the central hole and secured.

First the Geranium twig,









Cut the tips of the Aralia off so the shape is more like the original Nasturtium leaf, and if you can cope with the lack of perfect symmetry, try not to make it perfectly round. Done!



When does a vertical design not have a vertical line?

When the outline of the arrangement is vertical but the plant material is not positioned in a vertical direction.

And that is the case in these three competition pieces made to find the 'Florist of the Future' at the Melbourne Show.

Not only are they included because they illustrate the difference between a design having a vertical shape as opposed to a vertical line, but they also show three ways to use the same plant material for totally different effect (and we liked them a lot!).

A wire grid attached to a stand, Willow, Phalaenopsis Orchids, tropical foliage, Anthuriums, Amaranthus and Palm fibre were in the mystery box. What wonderful ideas for screens, entrance ways, church pews, and aisles.





This design has a vertical line!

All the plant material and flower stems are positioned to be upright, reaching for the sKy.

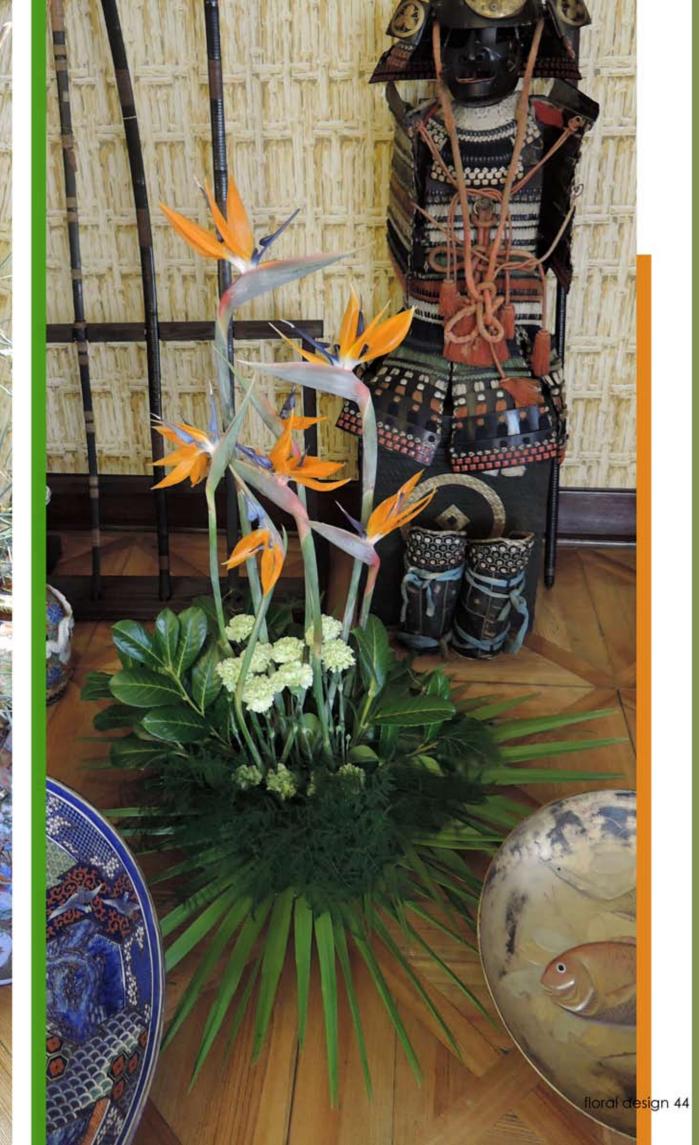
All the stems are coming from separate places not the middle as in the radiating lines. Arrangements with vertical line don't have to take up a small area either, just as long as the plant material in them is...(drum roll) vertical!

And this is the odd thing.
In some countries it is
taught that vertical
arrangements mean only
having a small footprint
with the bulk of the plant
material taking up air
space. Alternatively if
they have a large space
at the base they are
called parallel lines.
Go figure!

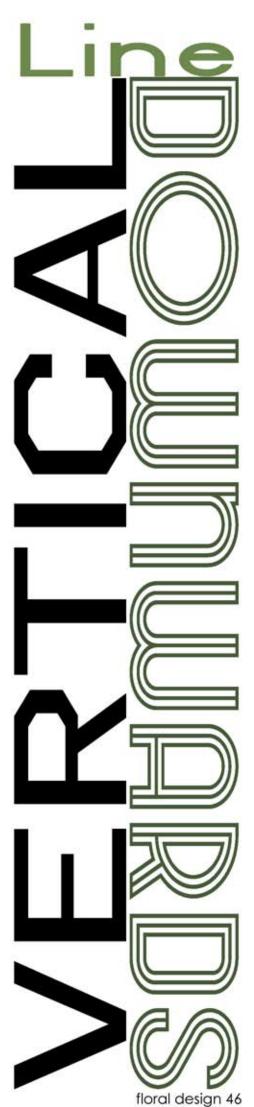
Whatever the label, it is a great line that creates drama and a feeling of being uplifted and happy. Try one and see.













A vertical line that has a downwards emphasis is often also labelled a cascade or waterfall.

This beautiful example was spotted at the Melbourne International Flower and Garden Show, the work of the Matthew Landers Academy. Each arrangement was set on its own white board, and these were set back from each other to create an interesting 3D effect.





The Enercare Centre at Exhibition Place in Toronto is huge but we found a site map and headed for the flowers. We knew we were on the right track when we passed under the Gatto Floral Arch created by Jennifer Harvey of Gatto Flowers. Everyone had to pass under it—and were in danger of getting a crick in the neck trying to see it in detail!

The theme of the show was "It's a Party' so Jennifer used the bright and cheerful party colours for the entrance.











HANG IT!

"This is the perfect Spring décor for any room in your house in my opinion!! Outside, over your tea table, in a foyer and it can be used for any occasion!"

WORDS & PHOTOGRAPHY JACLYN GOUGH

The word is LINE, and Jaclyn has gone for a downward direction with a vertical line.

A self made ring in the middle carries the bright and colourful flowers. The method can be adapted for any sized circumference, any height of the hangers and the dangly bits and using any plant material.

Hang it really low over the centre of round event tables, make it huge and high in a marquee, or match it with floral head dresses for a wedding.

In her second design in this series, Jaclyn also shows you how enclosing space (in this case with muslin strips,) makes any piece appear bigger than it is, perfect for creating great floral impact.

ARE YOU READY? LET'S GO!

Step 1: Take it back to the good ole days of paper chain garlands and put a twist on it using apple green flat cane from Smithers-Oasis. Cut 9.5" strips of flat cane with scissors

Step 2: Curl each strip around in a circle and secure with green bind wire. Run another strip through the first circle and repeat this pattern until you have about 50 links.

Step 3: Create a circle with brown aluminium wire. Make it the size you require for your middle section. The bigger the circle, the more times you will need to go around with the wire to make it strong enough to hold it's shape.

Step 4: Cover it with Oasis Waterproof Tape.

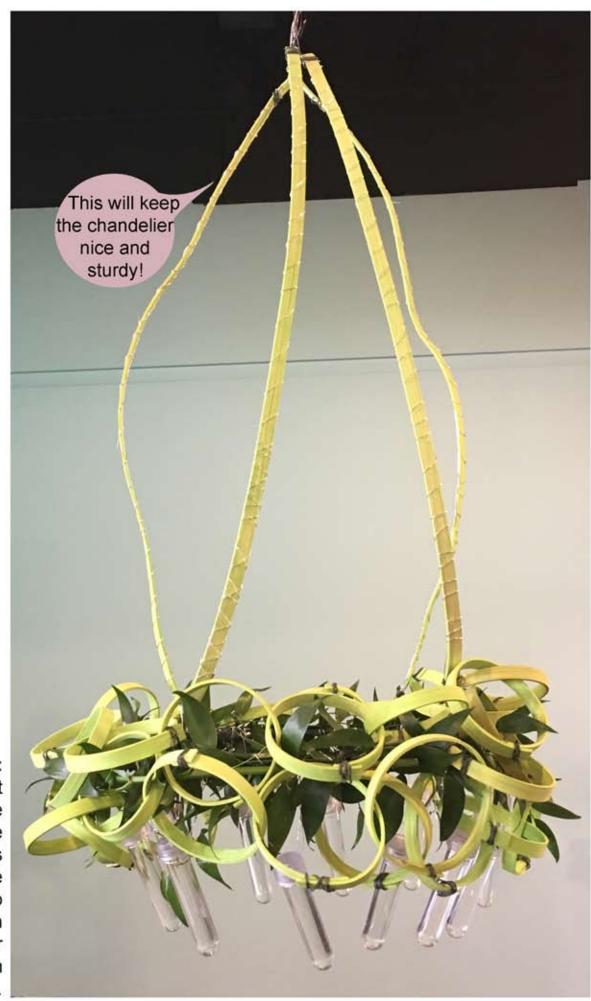






Step 8: Place the flat cane garland around the structure and secure with green bind wire.





Step 9: Attach flat cane to the silver wire that is allowing the structure to hang, with more silver aluminium wire.



Step 10: Add flowers!
Insert 3 Gerberas 6
Craspedia, 1 stem of
Viburnum, 1 stem of
purple Matsumoto
Aster, 5 stems of
green Amaranthus,
1/3 stem of
Waxflower into the
water tubes. Inserting
a flower or two in
each will work just
fine.

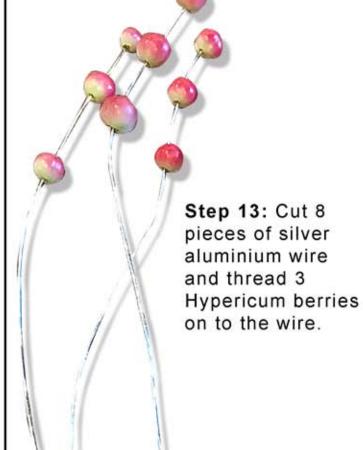


Step 11: Cut 15"
strips of
Smithers-Oasis Raw
Muslin or other
appropriate fabric
and gently drape over
the floral chandelier.
This will provide a
greater visual impact
to the arrangement
and reinforce the
vertical downward
line.

Step 12: Glue Vanda Orchids around the structure with Smithers-Oasis Cold Glue



NOT MUCH MORE!





Step 14: Pierce the wire using the over, under, over method on to the Celery Raw Muslin. These will hang from the muslin and provide more interest to the design.



JACLYN GOUGH 2 LINE

Step 15: Using needle nose pliers curl an end of Smithers-Oasis yellow diamond wire and make a free form movement around the middle section to accent the chandelier.

Now, you're done. Congrats! The final product can be placed anywhere!

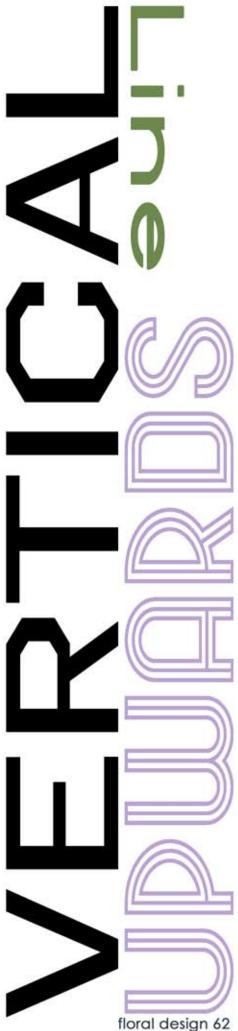




A vertical line that has a upwards emphasis is very common in Nature as flowers reach for the sunlight.

The fashion design student
Charmaine De Lima
exaggerated this line direction
at the Melbourne show. Using
huge Gymea leaves emerging
from the base, the upwards line
continued with the Lavender
bodice. This all leads the viewer
up to the Plum and Grape head
dress at the top!





HORIZONTAL MORIZONTAL

A horizontal line leads
the eye sideways. Along
the way there will be
points of interest
usually as round forms.
The Daffodils in this
arrangement, spotted at
Pond Castle, have that
function and they are
spread randomly
throughout.

The theme is a poem about Spring emerging and perhaps a Spring rabbit waiting to appear on the dinner table. The rifle barrel is an unusual way to enhance the horizontal line but it works!



The tiny vertical white sticks are placed in holes drilled into the birch branches. These are then the mechanics which hold up the horizontal red and white sticks woven through them.

This forms a grid to add the twigs of long lasting variegated Pittosporum foliage. Larger holes have been drilled into the Birch to hold flower tubes. These are for the Daffodils whose stems have also been woven loosely through the grid to hold them in place.









LINE

Use a horizontal line to connect 3 placements.

Nicole Gibson from
Marjorie Milner
College utilized the
linear qualities of
Willow, sticks and
New Zealand Flax to
strongly establish the
horizontal line, in this
piece at the
Melbourne show.









The three backgrounds were diagonal leaning left, right and vertical in the middle piece. This created a tension between the two layers. Did you want to look across the piece or along the background line? It made the whole display more dynamic and vibrant without having to use colour to achieve the same effect.

With the underlying tension in place, Nicole was then able to fill in the 3 placements with large, bold edged plant material in a variety of forms.

WHAT DID YOU MISS OUT ON?

Don't you always leave the hardest until last? There is no such thing as hard in flower arranging but often it is easier to watch a less used concept rather than read, don't you agree? These last 6 line directions were not spotted at any of the 4 shows we covered so that means they definitely need to be rediscovered!

freeform diagonal overlapping asymmetrical spiralling bent

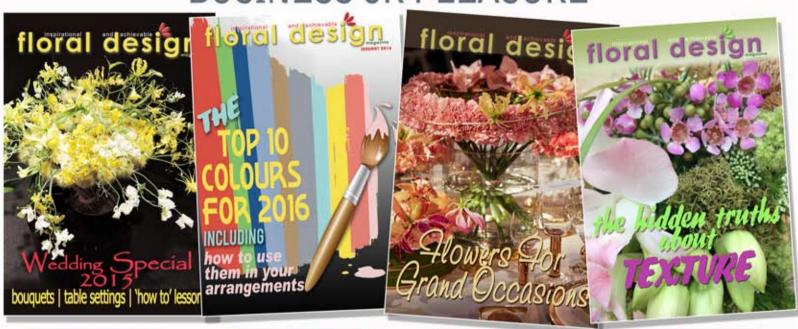
CLICK HERE: www.floraldesign-dvds.com/line.html

And so we have put them on this months companion video as 6 more step by step lessons.

- Each arrangement you will practise is an easy to follow table sized design based on the 6 missing line directions.
- The concepts are modern to give you 6 interesting mechanics to master.
- The plant material used is able to be substituted so you use what is available.
- You can buy the DVD, or stream it online to buy and watch anytime, anywhere, or rent it for 48 hours.

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