

# What To Do After Harvesting Cut Flowers...

<b>Cooler</b>	Store plants in a cooler with a temperature <b>BELOW 42°F</b> , but <b>above freezing</b> . This often helps stems hydrate more efficiently and extends vase life. Take care when storing Zinnia and Basil below 40°F.
<b>Room Temp</b>	Stems do not require refrigeration and should be kept <b>ABOVE 42°F</b> . Stems do best if kept in a cool room <b>BELOW 60°F</b> with little to no light.
<b>Chlorine</b>	<b>Chlorine and water solution</b> made with slow release tablets (ex. CVBD). Used primarily for “dirty flowers” or flowers that release tannins or sap into the water as they hydrate. Chlorine tablets reduce bacteria and help keep water cleaner, longer.
<b>Hydrator</b>	Cut stems are placed into a <b>diluted “hydrating” solution for a few hours</b> at room temperature or overnight in a cooled (34°F - 38°F) environment. Then flowers are transferred into flower food until transport/shipment.
<b>Quick Dip</b>	Should only be used on stems that have difficulty hydrating. Before placing in flower food, stems can be “ <b>quick dipped</b> ” for a <b>couple of seconds</b> to open up the stem’s vascular system, allowing for better hydration.

	Cooler	Room Temp	Chlorine	Hydrator	Quick Dip	Special Case
Basil		X		X		
Zinnia		X	X			
Cosmos		X				
Lisianthus	X					
Dahlias	X				X	
Anemones	X					
Yarrow	X		X			
Rudbeckia	X		X			
Narcissus	X					1
Dusty miller	X			X	X	*
Scented Geranium	X			X	X	*
Euphorbia	X					2
Celosia		X				
Amaranth	X					
Bupleurum	X					
Gomphrena	X					
Hydrangea	X					3
Nigella	X					
Marigold		X				
Snapdragon	X					
Sunflower	X		X			
Hibiscus		X		X	X	*
Dianthus	X					
Ammi/Daucus	X			X	X	*
Chinese Forget Me Nots	X			X	X	*

1: Needs to be kept in it's own bucket as sap can damage other flowers

2: Sap can cause skin irritation

3: Slit wood stems an inch at the bottom and put into bottom with 1 teaspoon of alum

\* Both Quick Dip and Hydrator are *not* necessary, growers can *pick one or the other*