

White roses, chrysanthemums, lisianthus, and other seasonal flowers are suitable for a Rosh Hashanah table. Choose blooms that suit the meal and the people sharing it, with arrangements low enough for guests to see one another.

Which flowers work well?

There is no required flower for Rosh Hashanah, so you can choose from what is fresh and available. White flowers are a popular choice for the holiday and can give a table a calm, bright look. Soft green foliage adds contrast without making the arrangement feel crowded.

- **Roses:** White or cream roses bring rounded shapes and sturdy petals to a centerpiece.
- **Chrysanthemums:** These come in many shapes, from small button blooms to larger flowers, and can fill gaps between stems.
- **Lisianthus:** Its delicate, rose shaped flowers work well in a loose arrangement.
- **Dahlias:** Where they are in season, dahlias can add color and texture to an early autumn table.

Flowers do not need to match perfectly. A few stems in related shades can feel more relaxed than a large arrangement made from one kind of bloom.

How can flowers reflect the holiday?

Rosh Hashanah is the Jewish New Year, and many families serve symbolic foods as part of the celebration. Apples and honey are associated with hopes for a sweet new year. Pomegranates also appear on some tables and have their own place in holiday traditions.

You might place apples or a pomegranate beside a vase, rather than inside it. Keeping fruit separate from the water makes the arrangement easier to care for and leaves the food available for serving. Flowers themselves need not carry a symbolic meaning to belong on the table.

How should you arrange them?

Start with a low vase or several small containers. Guests can talk across them, and there will be room for serving dishes, wine cups, and bread. If you use candles, leave a clear gap between the flames and any flowers or foliage.

Trim the stems and place them in clean water. Remove leaves that would sit below the waterline, since submerged leaves can make the water cloudy. Set the flowers out of direct sun and away from heat to help them stay fresh.

For a meal with many dishes, consider placing one small vase at each end of the table instead of a centerpiece in the middle. That keeps the main serving area open.

Questions about Rosh Hashanah flowers

Must the flowers be white?

No. White is a common choice, but you can use colors that suit your table and your family's preferences.

Are scented flowers a good idea?

Lightly scented or unscented flowers are considerate at a meal. Strong fragrance can compete with the food or bother sensitive guests.

Can I bring flowers to a host?

Yes. A small arrangement already in a vase is easy for a host to set aside or display without interrupting meal preparations.

What if someone has allergies?

Ask the host about sensitivities before choosing flowers. If there is concern, fruit or fresh greenery can provide a simple table decoration instead.

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