

Train employees to condition flowers by showing them each step, then letting them practice with fresh stems under supervision. Use a simple routine for clean tools, fresh water, stem care, and storage, and check their work until they feel confident.

Start with a clear demonstration

Explain that conditioning helps cut flowers take up water and stay in good shape. Before handling flowers, show employees where to find clean buckets, cutting tools, flower food, and a place to record deliveries.

Work through a small batch while describing what you are doing. Point out damaged petals, bent stems, and leaves that would sit below the waterline. Encourage employees to look closely and ask questions rather than rush.

Demonstrate how to remove lower leaves without stripping away more foliage than needed. Cut a little from the bottom of each stem with a clean, sharp tool, then place the stems in water promptly. Show employees how to keep their hands clear of the blade and carry tools safely.

Practice a consistent routine

Give each employee a manageable batch and stay nearby for the first few attempts. A written checklist can make the order of work easier to remember:

- Clean buckets and tools before use.
- Check flowers for damage and separate any that need attention.
- Prepare water and flower food according to the product directions.

- Remove foliage that would sit in the water.
- Recut stems and place them in the prepared buckets.
- Label and store flowers according to your workplace procedures.

Watch for small details, such as a crowded bucket or leaves left underwater. Explain what needs to change and demonstrate again if useful. Let the employee repeat the step, since handling the stems often teaches more than watching alone.

Teach care after conditioning

Conditioning is not finished once the flowers are in a bucket. Teach employees to check water levels and look for cloudy water, fallen leaves, or stems beginning to soften. Show them your workplace routine for changing water and cleaning containers.

Different flowers may need different handling or storage. Keep reliable care instructions close at hand, and ask employees to check them when an unfamiliar variety arrives. If a stem has special needs, demonstrate those separately rather than expecting the general routine to cover everything.

Give feedback during ordinary shifts, not just on the first day. A brief review of a finished bucket can help employees notice their progress and correct mistakes early. Once they can explain and perform the routine consistently, give them more independence while remaining available for questions.

Questions employees may ask

How long should training take?

Allow enough time for a demonstration, supervised practice, and a later check. The right pace depends on the employee and the flowers they handle.

What if a flower looks damaged?

Set it aside and ask a supervisor to assess it. Keeping questionable stems separate makes the rest of the batch easier to inspect.

Should every flower be treated the same way?

No. Begin with the shared cleaning and water routine, then follow the care guidance for each variety.

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