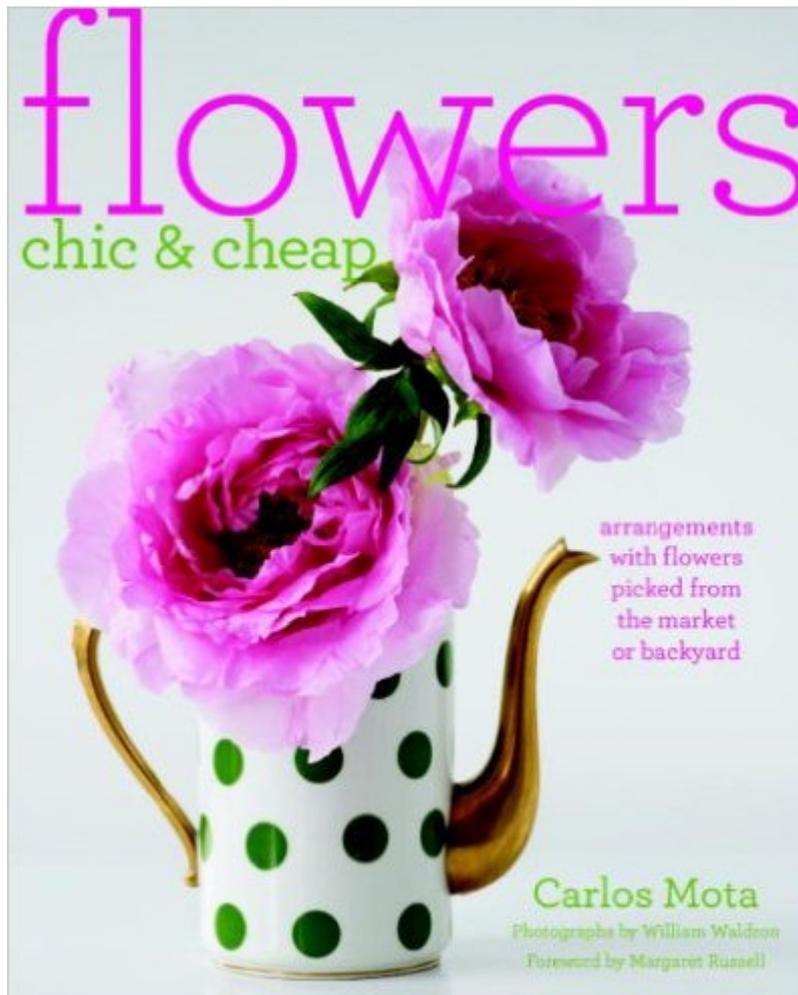


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# Flowers Chic And Cheap: Arrangements With Flowers From The Market Or Backyard



## Synopsis

**FLOWERS ARE LIKE WATER: YOU NEED THEM EVERY DAY** Forget about fussy bouquets and ornate vases. All you need are a few blooms from your grocery store or farmers' market, a simple container—perhaps one found at a garage sale or in your recycling bin or kitchen cabinet—and a touch of whimsy to pull it all together. In *Flowers Chic and Cheap*, Elle Decor editor at large Carlos Mota shows how unexpected elements can make a style statement. For example, fill a vintage teapot with pink peonies and set it next to your bed; gather some ferns and an orange poppy in a colorful gift bag and call it a centerpiece; dress any entryway by loading a soup tureen with lemons and a few dusted-off leaves (picked from the backyard, of course). Inside, Carlos reveals his trademark secrets for teasing the most out of flowers' color, height, and texture, such as: Unusual combinations make the most interesting arrangements (think posh English garden roses paired with inexpensive pom-poms). Two dozen cheap roses are perfect for a graceful bouquet when the stems are cut short, arranged tightly, and peppered with mint stems. Short- and long-stemmed flowers placed in bud vases on a cake stand are always easy and elegant. Carlos also shares his tips for treasure hunting for vessels found in the most ordinary places. To him, a salsa jar is a vase for a dinner of Mexican take-out. Reused paint cans stuffed with any bouquet are one of the best wide-mouth vases around. With short lists of what you'll need and clear instructions for what to do, plus more than two hundred gorgeous color photographs by celebrated photographer William Waldron, *Flowers Chic and Cheap* gives you all the practical information and inspiration for sprucing up your place without making a fuss.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

This is the first time I have ever taken the time to review something on .com. This book was THAT good. My hat goes off to you Carlos Mota, your book was absolutely a treat...and it will take a place of honor on my coffee table. Okay I'll cut to the chase, these are the reasons that this book hit's it out of the park: 1. BEAUTY: This book is visually stunning, absolutely a feast for the eyes. Even if you have no intention of ever buying a single flower, buy this book simply because it's beautiful. 2. ADVICE: The ideas presented in this book as solid, practical ideas's - which can be executed by the most novice of flower arrangers. Furthermore, he lists out all of the materials to recreate each arrangement like a recipe. It couldn't be any simpler. 3. STYLE: The format of the book is clean, and beautiful. Most of the pages which explain how to create the arrangements are a solid color which coordinates beautifully with the arrangement - with a clean white font. 4. PERSONALITY: Carlos is clearly not afraid to be himself which is wonderful. The book feels very conversational, and open. I love that he uses the words "OMG" and "Heeedious". So great. All right, that's it for me....I hope you enjoy it as much as I did! Cheers, Victoria

The photography is beautiful, but the flower selection is dull. Practically every other page features peonies in some kind of cute vase, jar, or re-purposed container sitting on stacked books in a million dollar apartment. Peonies are gorgeous and quite photogenic, but it becomes quite repetitive. Some projects are more inspired than others, but most are on the basic side. Please ignore the out-dated advice about adding Sprite, pennies or bleach to your vase. Go to a nearby florist and ask to purchase flower food packets. They contain everything you need to feed flowers and prevent bacterial growth. Despite these things, the author's energy and love of flowers does come through on every page. Also...did the publisher really not notice the phallus on the author's nightstand on page 137?

Great tips and tricks. My interior designer and I both fell in love with this book. I haven't bought flowers in months because I found so many new ways to use flowers from my garden. Stylish, simple, fun, and really interesting designs.

My sister loves flower's like me. It runs in the family. She loved this book. It was recommended in one of my House magazines.

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