

#### Welcome:

I discovered in August that I am very fortunate. I contracted pneumonia the 2nd half of the month which left me very tired and with a cough that I was sure would cause my lungs to explode. It also required me to be closed for several weeks and to those of you who were unable to reach me then I do apologize. During that time I spoke to a friend who said that she would have sent me flowers but her florist was sick. We laughed and I coughed for about 5 minutes, but later, upon reflection, I thought about how many customers have become friends and how grateful I am for that. So, to all my friends, a heartfelt thank you and best wishes for a healthy fall.



# Flower of the Month: Celosia!



If you like texture in your flower arrangements, then you're going to love our flower of the month! Celosia, also known as cockscomb, is about as texturally interesting as they come. From a wheat celosia with plumes of feathery color, to the brain-like folding curves of the crested variety, these flowers don't go unnoticed. Green, red, orange and yellow as well as combinations of these, the colors of celosia are true to the season in which they are available, namely fall. From the Greek 'kelos', meaning burned, the Celosia plant, appropriately, thrives in hot conditions. Not surprisingly then, one version of their origin places them on the dry slopes of Africa.

In 1570 they made the trip from Asia to England. Not to be left behind in American history, the Thomas Jefferson Foundation and Monticello report that Jefferson recorded sowing cockscomb (the crested variety) at Shadwell, his boyhood home, in 1767. These easy to grow flowers indeed have a rich history. Whether you grow them yourself or purchase them as a cut flower, experience a little history this fall and treat yourself to some Celosia.





Anne



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# How To: The Care Of The Lucky Bamboo!

Did you know that Lucky Bamboo is not a bamboo plant at all?

It is in fact a Dracaena and is native to West Africa.

This novelty plant, popular as a gift, requires bright indirect light. Too much sunlight can cause the leaves to burn. Although often seen in glass

vases supported by rocks or marbles, Lucky Bamboo can also be grown in soil. If your plant is being grown hydroponically, be sure that the water level is at least a couple of inches and that the roots are covered with



water. Ideally you should use distilled water. If you must use tap water, fill a container and let it sit overnight so that the chlorine evaporates. One downside however is that you can't get rid of the fluoride in tap water and fluoride can cause the tips of the plant to turn brown. Be sure to change the water every couple of weeks. Lucky Bamboo

does not need a lot of fertilization. Every couple of months or even longer you can dilute (to 1/10 the normal strength) a water soluble houseplant fertilizer and add to the water. Too much fertilizer can cause the leaves to yellow.



### "Whispers From the Flower Fields"



"A flower's appeal is in its contradictions - so delicate in form yet strong in fragrance, so small in size yet big in beauty, so short in life yet long on effect." Terri Guillemet

Thanks a bunch for picking Hydrangea Bleu!!



- Vase life is 5 to 7 days or longer.
  - Available midsummer into fall.
  - Can be air dried.

If you know someone who would enjoy our newsletter, please forward this e-mail to them. Thanks! www.hydrangeableu.com E-mail: anne@hydrangeableu.com

# Eco: "An Eco-Shower Equipped with Water Filtering Plants!"



Simulate living life in the wilds of nature by taking a shower in the Phyto-Purification Bathroom. Using a natural filtering principal, this mix of modern design and nature is a mini eco-system able to recycle and regenerate gray water. A hydraulic system channels wastewater through a collection of plants, starting the phyto-purification process.

Each part of the plant plays a crucial role in cleaning the water — the sand where the reeds are planted provides the initial rough cleaning, and as the water passes through the roots, heavy metals and bacteria are removed. An ingenious concept, this living shower not only aids in water conservation, but also produces additional oxygen. The Phyto-Purification Bathroom is a concept developed by designers Jun Yasamoto, Alban Le Henry, Olivier Pigasse and Vincent Vandenbrouck.

<u>Google: and search :An Eco-Shower Equipped with Water</u> <u>Filtering Plants | Inhabitat - Green Design Will Save the World</u>