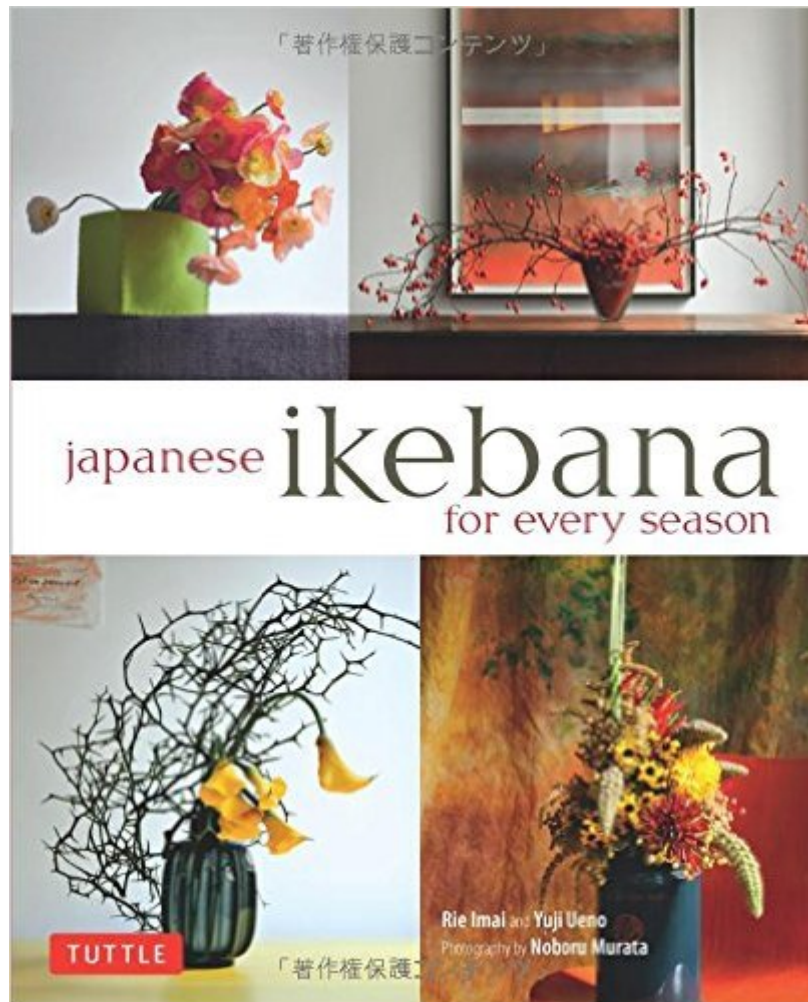


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# Japanese Ikebana For Every Season: .



## Synopsis

The true meaning of Ikebanaâthe traditional Japanese art of flower arrangementâis to take a few beautiful flowers and plants and tastefully present them in very simple containers to enhance home decor. The 53 elegant arrangements featured in Japanese Ikebana for Every Season are perfect for special occasionsâMother's Day, Valentine's Day, birthday, anniversaryâor any event that calls for a flower bouquet. The key to good Ikebana arrangements is to understand a few very simple principlesâlike the idea of mitate, seeing old things with new eyesâand to learn a few easy techniques to stabilize and support plants inside a vase or container. Using common flowers and plants from the garden, a nearby field or forest, or the local florist, anyone can easily create these lovely Ikebana in just a few minutes. Authors Rie Imai and Yuji Ueno explain how to select flowers and containers from things that are already aroundâand then turn them into something special. The basic instructions in the book cover a wide range of styles that encourage readers to use their own creativity rather than copying traditional and highly technical Ikebana design concepts. No matter what time of year it is and regardless of your taste or budgetâthe arrangements in this book will lend a touch of Japanese elegance to your home.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

This beautiful book provides a modern approach to the ancient art of Ikebana. Exquisite photography of seasonal arrangements highlights the elegance and simplicity of this traditional art form. Both the novice and advanced practitioner will delight in the presentation of applying basic

techniques with a modern approach. There are many inspiring examples for easily creating stunning arrangements to enhance any environment.

The Japanese art of ikebana is many things: meditation, making friends without words, a way of learning about plants, a means of gaining respect for nature, getting us close to the elements of nature and the laws of the universe, appreciating line and space as well as color and a means of personal development and spiritual enlightenment. But ikebana is usually shrouded in mystery and presented as a series of strict rules. The practitioners of the art, specially in the west, are mostly to blame for its reputation as something difficult, elitist, and too strict to be creative. Rie Imai and Yuji Ueno dispose of all the prejudices and do much to bring out the true beauty and creativity of ikebana. The book is full of helpful techniques and practical advice, as well as many beautiful examples that will get you started and introduced to the true beauty of the art. This is not a craft book. It is a book about demystifying and making a beautiful art form accessible to all who love flowers and flower arranging. The book is beautifully edited (I could not find the name of the editor), but unlike many translations from Japanese, it is presented in good, flowing and fluent English.

I always thought of Ikebana as a complicated art that you practice only after years of study. The authors of this book made it so that anyone can enjoy this beautiful craft. They have just enough history and explanation to know why you are doing what you are doing. They use everyday household items and flowers you can find in any town and in your own backyard. Absolutely loved this book! Highly recommend.

A fantastic book on ikebana for the beginner or expert. I have recommended it to everyone. Wonderful information on Japanese culture as well. Not all the ikebana arrangements in this book are the best examples you will find, but the technical information and commentary on ikebana as part of Japanese life is well worth the price.

Love, love, love this book! I admit that I'm attracted to the simplicity of Japanese life... including Ikebana. Simplicity on the surface but precise in its presentation. This book presents a new type of ikebana... a more contemporary style. The principles of Ikebana are outlined along with practical design tips. I particularly liked the unusual selection of containers and can't wait to try some of these designs. The photography and quality of the book are superior.

I was expecting a book on flower arranging. I was wrong. It's so much more. It's beautifully written and full of information on finding items to use as vessels, preparing them, finding plant material, how to treat them and add stabilization if necessary, and more. Plus there's a zen to the writing that feels more like lessons on life and not just how to place flowers. The photos are STUNNING and many are beautiful enough to frame. I'm thrilled with the book and have read it from cover to cover but will keep it for reference and a reminder to look at my world a little differently. I received a review copy; however, it does not affect my honest opinion.

First of all, what a beautiful book. The photography, materials, settings of arrangements, pull the reader in. You pick it up just to glance through it for a few minutes but then you get hooked looking at every page! That will happen over and over because each read gives you a new takeaway. It doesn't follow a particular school of ikebana but does cover the techniques and tips used by most of the schools. I like how the authors touch on the various material preparation. Correct preparation can make all the difference in an arrangement that will last one day or one week. This is a wonderful book for the novice who wants to learn more and may not have access to ikebana classes. B.

Crowe, President of Ikebana International, Houston Chapter #12

This is a visually pleasing book that has simplified this ancient art of Ikebana for everyone. I have been inspired to try out new floral combinations and I am especially grateful for the excellent photography that made it an experience.

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