

Blessings in Bloom

Mizuki Nasuno, Floral Decoration Course
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1. Introduction

I decided to create a headpiece to decorate my hair to match well with my kimono for the Coming-of-Age Ceremony held in January this year.

Since there was a period before the ceremony, I was unable to use fresh flowers for creating my work, so I used preserved ones instead.



In addition, wanting to try other designs and fresh flower arrangements as well, I designed and made some different headpieces while listening to my classmates' designs of *furisode* (long-sleeved kimono) for the ceremony, *hakama* (formal kimono for graduation), their preferred hair styles, and images, etc.

2. Creation of works

Headpiece work 1			
Furisode Kimono	Black base, overall tie-dyed kimono with gold obi sash		
Hairstyle	Braided down		
Colors	Wine red, Cream		
Image	Discreet Impression		
Style	Parts type※		

< Reviews >

- The amount of parts for space-filling flowers such as hydrangeas should be less than that of the main flower.
- The petals were scattered due to strong winds on the day of the ceremony.
→I thought it would be better to put glue at the base of the petals.

Headpiece work 2			
Furisode Kimono	White base with blue, red, and gold (Obi sash: Green, gold, navy)		
Hairstyle	Hair up in twin buns		
Colors	White, red, green, blue		
Image	Cute impression		
Style	3-point type + parts type / parts type※		


< Reviews >

- Flowers that easily emit sap, such as wax flowers, are not suitable for making headpieces.
- For curved hairstyles like buns, it's easier to put soft-petaled flowers or filler flowers in between.
- For designs that wraps around the bun, the point-type headpieces are better suited.

Headpiece work 3		
Hakama, Kimono	Pale yellow green	
Hairstyle	Twin braided down	
Colors	Pink, purple	
Image	Cute impression	
Style	Parts type※	

<Reviews>

- Astrantia is not suitable for headpieces because it wilts more quickly.
- The position of the flower should be considered when creating the work.
- When attaching to the braids, it is better to use asymmetrical shapes and to avoid arranging large flowers to the ends for better balance.

Headpiece work 4		
Hakama, Kimono	pale light green	
Hairstyle	Short with side braided	
Colors	Purple like colors	
Image	Attached only on the right side Light purple color	
Style	Point type / Parts type※	

<Reviews>

- Part-type styles are better suited for designs of larger flowers because the point-type ones look heavy and unstable.
- Filler flowers such as baby's breath can be used to add dimension.

3. Summary

I was able to experience the fit and weight of the headpiece only when I actually put it on myself for the coming-of-age ceremony, which I did not realize when I was making it.

Having little experience in making headpieces, I did not know the proper way to produce them, and it often took me a long time to complete the process.

However, after creating several pieces, I was able to get the tips of how to wire and shape the designs.

I'd like to improve my wiring techniques according to the flowers for saving production time, and to come up with designs that match the colors of various kimonos and obis in the future.

【Notes】

※"Parts type (individual floral elements arranged separately)"

※"Point type (a single focal floral arrangement)"