

# INSPIRING IKEBANA

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Photography: Ben Huybrechts



stichting  
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# Keeping Warm



Bergenia leaves are large, rather thick leathery leaves that turn a beautiful shade of red in autumn. If you cut them when they are just starting to change color, they are still very flexible.

I had a bunch of these leaves and was contemplating how to use them. While I was playing around with the leaves, I started to fold them, and they reminded me of a blanket. Building on the idea of a quilt, I placed one leaf over the other as if the blanket was casually hung over the rim of the vase, keeping the flowers warm.

## MATERIAL

*Bergenia leaves, Gerbera*





1 Select a Bergenia leaf, preferably in autumn when the leaves are a beautiful shade of red.



2 Fold it double. Make a cross-fixation in a Nageire vase.



3 Place the stem over the cross fixation in the top right quadrant. The bottom of the stem should rests against the inside of the vase.



4 Fold the next leaf and place it over the previous one, as shown in the picture.



5 Keep adding folded leaves; alternate the openings of the leaves to the left and right.



6 The first three leaves are placed downwards. Subsequent leaves are gradually placed upright.



7 All nine leaves are now positioned.



8 Add the Gerbera on different levels.



9 Finished result.



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