

Roses, lilies, tulips, chrysanthemums, and seasonal flowers can all suit a memorial service without religious symbols. Choose an arrangement based on the person's taste, the setting, and any wishes shared by the family.

Flowers that fit the occasion

There is no single flower required for a nonreligious memorial. A favorite flower or a mix from a garden can feel more personal than a formal display. If you did not know the person well, a simple arrangement in a quiet color is a safe choice.

- **Roses:** A familiar choice that works alone or mixed with greenery.
- **Lilies:** Often used at memorials, though their scent can be strong.
- **Tulips:** A simple choice for a spring service or a smaller vase.
- **Chrysanthemums:** Available in many shapes and colors, with sturdy blooms.
- **Seasonal flowers:** A useful way to reflect the time of year or the person's favorite colors.

Color is a matter of preference, not a rule. White and green can look calm and understated. Soft pink, yellow, or brighter mixed colors may be a better fit for someone who loved them.

Choose a simple arrangement

Ask for a vase arrangement, a bouquet, or a low table display without religious shapes or decorations. A round wreath can also work if the family welcomes flowers. Tell the person making it that you do not want a cross, angel, or other religious symbol included.

Think about where the flowers will go. A low arrangement is useful on a table where people need to see and speak to one another. A small vase may be easier for the family to take home than a large standing display.

If scent may be a concern, choose a less fragrant mix and mention that when ordering. You can also ask for an arrangement without lilies.

Follow the family's wishes

Check the service notice before sending flowers. The family may ask for donations instead, or the venue may have limited space. If the instructions are unclear, a brief message to the organizer can save the family an extra task on the day.

For flowers sent to a home, include a short card. You might write, "Thinking of you and remembering your mother," or share one specific, kind memory if you have one. Keep the message sincere and avoid religious wording if you know it would not suit the family.

Questions about memorial flowers

Are white flowers necessary?

No. White is common, but any color can be appropriate. The person's favorite colors are a good place to start.

Can I bring flowers to the service?

Check the notice or ask the organizer first. Some venues have a place for flowers, while others may prefer that arrangements be delivered elsewhere.

Is a wreath religious?

A plain round wreath is not inherently religious. Ask for one without religious decorations, and follow any guidance from the family.

Keep reading: https://polishcommunitycentre.com/the-polish-community-in-vienna-traditions-events/