

To arrange recurring flower deliveries for an elderly parent, choose a delivery service that offers subscriptions, then agree on a schedule, budget and delivery instructions. Pick flowers your parent enjoys, and make sure the arrangements suit their home and are easy to care for.

Start with your parent’s preferences

Ask your parent if they would enjoy regular flowers and where they would put them. A small arrangement for a bedside table may be more welcome than a grand display that takes over the dining table. This is also a good chance to find out which colours and flowers they like, and which scents they would rather avoid.

Consider how much care your parent wants to give the flowers. An arrangement supplied in a vase may be easier to enjoy than a loose bouquet that needs trimming and arranging. Check that the vase is stable and not too heavy to move. Flowers should brighten the room, not become another household chore.

If your parent has pets, check the safety of the flowers before ordering. Lilies, for example, are highly toxic to cats, including their pollen and the water in the vase. Tell the delivery service about any pets and ask what flowers will be included.

Choose a schedule and plan the delivery

Look for a service that delivers to your parent’s address and offers recurring orders. Weekly or monthly deliveries may be available, but schedules vary. Read the subscription terms before paying, including how to pause, change or cancel an order and whether delivery is included in the stated cost.

Start with a frequency that fits your budget and your parent's routine. Monthly flowers can be a pleasant surprise without leaving several vases competing for space. You can adjust the schedule later if the service allows it.

Give clear instructions for reaching the home. Include the correct address, a contact number and any details the service needs to find the entrance. If your parent lives in a care home or apartment building, check its rules for accepting deliveries and ask where flowers should be left. Avoid sharing access codes unless the recipient and the building agree it is appropriate.

Ask what happens if nobody answers the door. Flowers left outside may be damaged by heat or cold, so a neighbour, reception desk or another agreed contact might be a better option. A short note with each delivery can make it feel personal, even if the schedule does most of the remembering.

Questions you might have

Should I tell my parent about the deliveries?

Usually, yes. Knowing that flowers are coming lets your parent share preferences and helps prevent confusion at the door. You can still keep the colours or the message a surprise.

What if my parent cannot maintain the flowers?

Choose an arrangement that arrives in a vase and ask a relative, friend or caregiver if they can help change the water and remove fading stems. Check first that your parent is comfortable with that help.

A related guide: more info