Important notes:

- If your flowers are still fresh and you purchased this listing by mistake, you may choose to dry your flowers at home. If you prefer to ship your bouquet fresh so that I can dry them for you, please let me know as the instructions for packing are very different. You will be charged for the price of preserving fresh flowers.
- Many times, I do not use the entire bouquet since I only select the blooms that are in the best condition. Flowers that are damaged beyond repair or molded will be disposed of. You may have some extra petals or blooms returned to you with your final piece, but this is not guaranteed.
- If you would prefer communication outside of Etsy, please let me know. I'm happy to correspond through email or texting.

Supplies & Materials You Will Need for Shipping:

(All of these items can be found at a dollar store!)

- 1. Scissors
- 2. Shipping box that is bigger than your bouquet
- 3. Tissue paper, newspaper, or packing peanuts
- 4. Packing tape

Instructions:

- 1. Check to see if your bouquet has a foam support!
 - If it does, the ends of the stems are in this foam ball. The stems you hold in your hand are not connected to the flowers at all. You may remove the stems from this foam support so that they do not form mold.
 - Remove your flowers from water so they do not mold! Molded flowers cannot be preserved.
- 2. If your flowers are still fresh but you prefer to send them to me dry, please follow steps 3 or 4. If your flowers are already completely dried, proceed to step 5.

3. Drying Method 1: (Recommended) Drying your Bouquet with Silica *Warning: The silica and floral spray are toxic. Make sure to wear a mask and do this in a wellventilated area away from kids and pets.

- Drying your bouquet in silica is the best method for preserving your flowers' color and shape. This is the method I use.
- The supplies you will need (found on Amazon):
 - i. Wisedry 8lbs Silica Gel Flower Drying Crystals
 - ii. Any large <u>airtight</u> food storage container. I typically use one or two 6-quart containers per bouquet. I recommend purchasing a few.
 - iii. Krylon 11oz UV Floral Protectant Spray
 - iv. Tape and Sharpie for labeling
 - v. Scissors
- Pour a $\frac{1}{2}$ inch of silica in the bottom of the container.
- Select the freshest blooms! Cut all the stems off at the base of the flower and place into the silica. Largest flowers such as roses should go in first. Make sure they are evenly spaced, not touching each other or the edges of the container (like cookies on a baking sheet). You can always use more than one container if needed
- Pour silica around the sides of the roses and gently pour silica over the top of the roses.
- In your next layers, continue adding smaller flowers and greenery. You can stack them in layers if there is silica between the flowers. Make sure all flowers are covered with at least 1/2 inch of silica.
- Close your container and label with the date.
- Larger flowers such as roses will need at minimum of 2 weeks to dry. Thinner flowers such as daisies will need a week to dry.
- Carefully remove the flowers from the silica by pouring the silica into a secondary container. *Warning: The flowers are extremely fragile!*
- Don't worry if any petals fall off. Send all pieces to me. Package extra petals in a Ziplock bag or smaller box so they don't get lost
- Spray with a thin coat of floral spray. Allow it to dry and spray again with another coat.
- 4. Drying Method 2: (More Affordable) Airdrying your Bouquet:
 - Hang your bouquet upside down for 1-2 weeks in a room with low humidity.
 - Flowers with delicate petals will become extremely fragile and the petals may fall off. This is okay. Please send me all the flower pieces so that I can put them back together. Package extra petals in a Ziplock bag or smaller box so they don't get lost.

• Remove stems by cutting them at the base of the flower with scissors.

Packaging your Bouquet:

- 5. Get a box that is a little bigger than your bouquet.
- 6. Place your flowers in the box with bubble wrap, newspaper, tissue paper, or packing peanuts to provide cushion and support. Include extra petals that may have fallen off.
- 7. Place a piece of paper in the box with your full name and description of your bouquet. If you have a "favorite" type of flower you want me to focus on, or any special instructions let me know!
- 8. Label your box with a fragile sticker or write this on the box.
- 9. Since your flowers are already dried, you may ship first-class. If you'd like extra assurance, I recommend shipping priority.

**Please do NOT request a signature for delivery.

10. Ship to:

Kelsey Collins 350 Andrew Ridge Drive Jefferson, GA 30549

** These pieces take time to make (typically about 2-3 months). Refer to the listing to see a current turn-around time. Once I start your piece, I will send photo updates throughout the process.

Thank you for supporting my business!

Kelsey Collins

Daisies & Memorials

