

CONTENTS

Departments



8 DRESS CODES

Mad Men's costume designer on macho basics; a sampling of cool summer flats; how to make spring cleaning lucrative.



12 INSPIRED LIVING

Choosing the right shade of white; Floret Farm's Erin Benzakein grows far-out flowers.



16 GOING PLACES

Airstream appeal—the silver bullet is now a vacation destination.



20 CULTURE POINTS

This season's music festivals are not just for millennials.



24 THE POUR

Crown Point Vineyards turns out powerhouse wines.



27 THE TABLE

Chef Jessica Koslow's hot L.A. cafe Sqirl is just the beginning.



40 CELEBRATE

A summer solstice picnic starring vegetarian dishes from *Love Real Food*.

INSPIRED LIVING

Home and Garden | By Jeremy Brown

Flower Power

Floret Farm's **Erin Benzakein**, Author of the New Book *Cut Flower Garden: Grow, Harvest and Arrange Stunning Seasonal Blooms*, Spills the Dirt on Planting for Spring.





Q: What is the goal of your farm-garden, Floret Farms?

A: We're trying to show gardeners what's really available with a little bit of digging. A local nursery or garden center picks the standards. We try to introduce varieties that are obscure or hidden or ones that people just don't know about.

Q: Name one.

A: Take daffodils. You're used to the big hideous yellow monsters that can be found anywhere. But when you dig deeper into daffodils, or narcissus, there are well over a hundred beautiful, fragrant, ruffled, double, soft-color varieties that are total treasures.

Q: What are some of the best flowers to plant in spring?

A: Things that can handle some cold. They're called hearty annuals. Things like honeywort, larkspur,

love-in-a-mist, Iceland poppies, even sweet peas. So start there, followed by zinnias, cosmos, celosia—things that love the heat of summer.

Q: So, when should I start planting?

A: The biggest piece, no matter where you live, is to know your last spring frost date. (You can find those dates in *The Old Farmer's Almanac* at almanac.com.) We take the last frost date and then work back four to six weeks, and then that's when you start your seeds indoors.

Q: I'm a total amateur. What do I plant first?

A: You want to plant equal amounts of flowers and foliage. To make a beautiful bouquet, you don't just need the blooms, you need beautiful leaves and textural ingredients. Also, you want to extend the har-



vest, so choose hearty annuals, then heat-lovers and then things that will continue into the late autumn as the days cool.

Q: When should I cut my flowers?

A: You want to go through your cutting garden every week and take out the flowers that are in there so they don't go to seed. As soon as they start to make seedpods, it tells the plant, "It's time to make a seed, let's shut down." In a cutting garden, the more you cut, the more you get.

Q: Any parting advice?

A: You're going to kill some plants and that's OK! Don't beat yourself up if things don't work out. You will get better and more confident. »