

Flowers and plant designs feature in art from the earliest times right through to the modern era. In fact, flower designs are all around us!

Floral patterns have been:

- printed and woven into textiles
- painted on paper and canvas
- fired onto ceramics
- carved into stone
- printed into books to illustrate a story
- embossed into leather

Recording your thoughts...

- > Descriptive words - colour, shape, texture etc
- > What might certain fruits / flowers symbolise?
- > How might this design be used by a contemporary artist?

Good galleries to explore:

- Gallery 31: Islamic Middle East
- Gallery 35: West Meets East
- Gallery 40: European Ceramics
- Gallery 48: Still- Life Paintings
- Gallery 54: Delftware
- Gallery 65: Pissarro

Plate with Turkish design, England, 1680 - 90
Gallery 35: west Meets East (WA1963.136.16)



Tiles with vases and cyprus trees amid flowers, Syria, 1600 - 1700s
Gallery 31: Islamic Middle East (EA1977.15)



John Tradescant the Elder
Gallery 8: Ark to Ashmolean (WA1898.8)

'A Bouquet of Pink Peonies', Pissarro, 1873
Gallery 65: Pissarro (WA1951.225.1)



Vase with blossoms and interlocking leaves, Iran, 1600 - 1700
Gallery 31: Islamic Middle East (1902.EAX.1615)



Tiles from Turkey, 1550 - 1600
Gallery 31: Islamic Middle East (EAX3225)



'A Vase of Flowers', Dutch Tulip Painting No. 9, Ambrosius Bosschaert, 1610
Gallery 48: Still-Life Paintings (WA1940.2.15)



Vase with lotus plants and ducks, Japan, 1870s
Gallery 36: Japan from 1850 (EA2008.65)

Further resources

Ashmolean Education:
www.ashmolean.org/learning-resources

Ashmolean Eastern Art Online:
www.jameelcentre.ashmolean.org/