

Just because autumn leaves have fallen and winter's dreary days have set in, there's no reason to be without tints and hues from the garden. How do you make your home bright and cheery in the face of freezing weather? With the use of colorful dried flowers. Sometimes known as everlastings, flowers suitable for drying have a straw-like texture and hold their shape and color all winter without care or water.

The list of flowers that can be treated as everlastings includes: celosia, statice, strawflowers, bells-of-Ireland, ammobium, and globe amaranth. Flower stems should be cut before the blooms are fully open, tied together, and hung upside down in a dark, airy place for two or three weeks. (For more on drying flowers, see "Special Gardens.")