Work box items

What do I need?

As you do more flower arranging the box will 'grow', but a few items to consider and what you may use them for.

A pair of scissors or secateurs	Clean, sharp blades minimise damage to and contamination of plant material.
Pin holder (green plastic frogs)	Frogs hold foam in container. Standard size approx 3cm wide, although larger ones available. For small work, consider a drawing pin.
Fix adhesive	'Blue tac' type material to hold frog in container. Fix to dry container, but remains fixed in water. Reusable.
Pot tape	Helps hold foam in container. If using a 'square round' use two pieces, left to right/top to bottom. Initially, cross over, slightly off centre. Available in different widths in green and clear.
'Square round' bowl	Basic, cheap, versatile container. Available in green and silver. Can be used on own or inside other decorative container.
Floral Foam Block	Different sizes/shapes available. Standard size 23 x 11 x 8 cm. Green foam holds water and used with fresh flowers. Float in water and allow to take up water. Do not push under as air pockets may remain in the foam. Grey foam does not hold water and is used with dry/artificial items.
Work box	Small tool box/plastic tub.
Plastic sheet/ refuse bag/ tablecloth and bag	Sheet to protect table and collect 'off cuts' etc. Bag to take away foliage etc. for recycling





'Other' work box items. Not all items required, but some may be useful to add variety to arrangements.

Wires Reel Bullion Aluminium	Reel wire available in different colours. Fine gauge. Bullion – similar to reel wire, but crinkle effect – adds different texture. Aluminium wire – different colours and larger gauge. Can provide structure and decoration. Flexible and holds shape.
Telescopic Wire Tube	Holds stub wire, preventing bending.
Parafilm (stem tape)	Plastic tape used to proved a neat finish to plant stems etc. Apply steady tension to tape as wrap around stem. Sticks to self.
Knife	Alternative to scissors. Some demonstrators prefer/recommend use. Domestic 'bread knife' useful to cut foam.
Stapler	Secure folded/manipulated foliage. Coloured staples available from Oasis and stationery stores.
Kebab and cocktail sticks	Useful to secure items within design. e.g. fruit and veg; cut down to form legs for candles etc. Secure to base with pot tape. Make holes in foam to take delicate stems.
Pins and mossing pins	Straight pins and mossing pins available in different lengths. Pins plain head or decorative - use to secure foliage, leaves to structure, highlight decoration within flower etc. Mossing/german pins – stiff, bent wire. Can be used to secure sticks/foliage along foam.
Beads	Different sizes/shapes/colours. Available as individual or on wire. Can add accent/movement to arrangement. Add to Medilino sticks or wire.
Cling film	Wrap foam when standard container not appropriate. Use single layer or can become too difficult to add stems.
Wire cutter	Saves your scissors!
Candle holder/cups	Different sizes. Either holds candle in foam or larger ones fit in candle stick to hold arrangement.
Pin holders	Metal pin holders are different to 'frogs'. Come in different sizes and density of pins. Went out of favour, but renewed interest as more eco friendly than foam. Hold in place with 'fix'. Stems are pushed in/on the pins. Availability patchy.
Tube and cap	Different sizes, provides water supply to plant material not in direct contact with foam or container.
Floral Rainbow foam	Available in different colours and can be used as a feature. Takes longer to soak up water. Does not contain plant food. Can see original hole when replace plant stems.
Posy pad (Naylor base)	Different sizes and shapes. Floral foam disc in plastic base, known as Naylor Base.
Ring (Naylor base)	Different sizes. Floral foam ring in plastic base, known as Naylor Base. Useful for door rings; inset second piece of foam to create different shape e.g. tear drop; Cut in two and rejoin to create an S shape. Open ends can be sealed with single wrap of cling film.
Hexagonal mesh on roll Copper mesh roll	Decorative and can provide structure. Can be used as an alternative to foam, by scrunching up in container. Can be used concealed or as part of design. Approximately 2cm square mesh. Can be used on own or within plant material etc to form original container.
Finland Moss	Available in different colours. Use to cover gaps on foam or as an accessory.
Sissal	Available in different colours. Use to cover gaps on foam or as an accessory.
Bullion Hair	Very fine, decorative, metallic, filaments. Available in different colours. Add to other materials or use on own.
Midelino sticks	Different colours. Approximately 80 cm long. Flexible sticks. Can form structures or shaped within an arrangement to add space or movement.
Twisted Tamboo	Different colours.
Giunno sticks	Different colour combinations. Approximately 10 cm long. Decorative e.g. palisade around container; wire as 'kite tail'.
Stones/pebbles	Different size/shape/colour adds texture to arrangements. Can be used as an alternative method of supporting plant material.