

Daffodils

By Kathy Moore

Skill Level 2 (of 4)

Daffodils are for ever popular and a great asset to the cake decorator. They can be displayed without being wired into a spray and be the focal point of superb garden or wild life arrangement. They look equally at home on top of a cake, or around the base and not forgetting the finishing touch – a ladybird!

The composition seen here uses a 'sugar' plant pot, made using pastillage (or petal paste) and the soil effect is simply a tea bag. The 'cobbles' are made using an FMM textured mat and Stemtex has been sprinkled over the top. This makes a perfect present and a super keepsake. *Look out for our project on the Freesia for alternative uses for this cutter!*



To make the above you will also need the "Violet How To".

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Equipment and Materials			
	✓		✓
Non stick board		Yellow stamens	
Non stick rolling pin		Dusting powders, White, Foliage green, Nutkin brown	
Petal Pad		Paste colour- Foliage green extra, Egg yellow, Chestnut	
Dog bone tool		Dusting brushes & paint brushes	
Dresden tool		Florist tape Moss green	
White fat (e.g. White Flora)		Confectioners glaze, brush and cleaner	
Edible glue and brush		Culpitt Daffodil cutter set	
Scissors		Violet leaf veiner	
Wire cutting scissors		Jem short friller tool (no. 15) or similar pointed throat tool.	
Small fine palette knife		Jem veining tool (no. 12)	
26# green florist wires		Pipe cleaners	
SFP (Petal paste)Daffodil, Holly/Ivy			

Method

Centre Trumpet

1. Cut the tips off the stamens. You will need approximately 6 stamens for each flower.
2. Cut 28# green florist wire into half.
3. Use ¼ width tape and tape 6 stamens onto one end of the wire.



4. Add some Egg Yellow paste colour to the SFP Daffodil making a buttercup yellow colour.
5. On a non stick board, lightly greased with white fat, roll out a small piece of yellow petal paste but not too thinly.
6. Use the cutter to cut out a 'trumpet'.

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- Using the ridged side of the short friller tool, frill along one edge of the trumpet. See images below.



- Lightly glue along one short edge of the trumpet and bring the other edge round, form the trumpet.
- Attach a very small piece of petal paste at the base of the stamens and moisten with glue.
- Thread the stamens through the trumpet and bring the paste together at the bottom of the trumpet to secure to the stamens.



- Use the Dresden tool to encourage the trumpet frill outwards.
- Leave to dry.

Inner Petals (On left in picture below – outer petals on right)

- Roll out the yellow paste in the same way as for the trumpet and cut out a daffodil shape.
- Using the Jem veining tool and a rocking action, vein and spread each petal.
- Gently make a light crease down the centre of the petals. Make a hole in the centre large enough to take a 24# wire.
- Leave to dry.

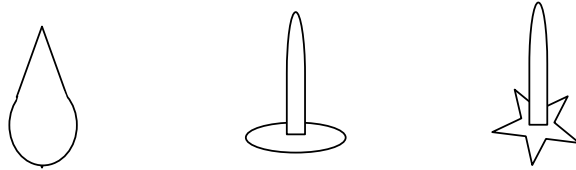


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Outer Petals (On right in picture above)

1. Take a small piece of petal paste and roll it into an elongated cone (see image below)
2. Using your finger and thumb, flatten the fat end of the cone to form a 'saucer shape'. This is called a 'Mexican Hat'
3. Place the Daffodil cutter over the top of the Mexican hat and cut out.



5. Make a throat in the centre of the petals with the friller tool. Lengthen each petal marginally and vein as for the inner petals.
6. Lightly glue the inside of the throat and attach the inner petals.
7. Lightly glue the centre of the inner petals and thread the stamens through the flower.



8. Shape the back of the daffodil on the wire and leave to dry.

Buds

1. Roll a sausage of yellow paste and insert onto the end of a hooked 26# green wire and shape as per the image.
2. With your fingers, pinch the paste to make a 'wing'.
3. Repeat so you have three 'wings' equally spaced out around the bud.
4. Loosely fold the wings down to make the bud.
5. Tape up the stem.



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Finishing Flower

1. Paint the very edges of the trumpet frill a deeper yellow.
2. Lightly dust the part of the daffodil along the stem with green.
3. Add a pipe cleaner to the stem of each daffodil and tape securely.
4. Bend the flower to its correct position



Make the Sheath

1. Colour some petal paste pale brown and roll out not too finely.
2. Cut out a daffodil shape and cut this into 3 individual petals.
3. Use the veining tool to spread and lengthen and make a crease down the length of each.



4. Glue the back of the daffodil and attach a 'sheath' making sure it stands proud of the flower.
5. Repeat for the buds, but attach closer to the bud.
6. Dust the sheath sparingly with green just at the base.



Finishing

Steam the flowers over a boiling kettle carefully to finish.