

Making Filler Flowers

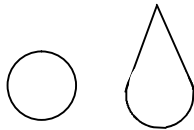
By Kathy Moore

Equipment and materials to make Filler Flowers			
	✓		✓
Non stick board		Petal pad	
Non stick small rolling pin		Petal paste – colour of your choice	
White fat (e.g. White Flora etc.)		Dusting colours of your choice.	
Dog bone tool		Dusting brushes	
30# gauge green wires		Mid green florist tape cut into ¼ width	
Edible glue and brush		Small pointed tool (e.g. Jem no. 15)	
Fine pointed scissors		Blossom cutters	

Filler flowers can be made in a number of ways and below are two methods to choose from.

Making filler flowers using the 'Mexican Hat' method

How to make a 'Mexican Hat'



Roll a piece of petal paste into a ball then into a pointed cone.

Spread the base of the cone by pinching with your fingers until the base is a flat saucer. Roll out the saucer until it becomes thin.

Place your cutter over the top of the 'hat' and cut out a blossom shape. Remove the excess paste.

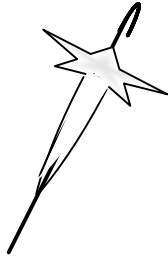
Pick up the blossom and insert a pointed tool into the centre to make a throat for the flower. Press each petal against the tool to thin the petals and vein them.

Making Filler Flowers

By Kathy Moore



Cut a 30# gauge green wire into four and make a small neat hook at one end of the wires.



Lightly dip the hook into glue and insert it through the throat of the flower. Allow the tip of the wire to show to represent the flower centre.



Use your fingers to mould the base of the flower to the wire. Remove any excess paste as required.



Finishing Touches



Make buds to add to the filler flowers. Take a very small ball of petal paste and roll into a fine, pointed cone. Dip the end of a hooked wire into glue and insert into the base of the bud. Make the buds in varying sizes and snip the larger buds at the top with fine scissors. This represents an opening bud. Dust or paint the base of the bud with green dusting powder. Dust the tips of the buds in a darker shade to the petal paste you are using.

Making Filler Flowers

By Kathy Moore

Making filler flowers using stamens

(You will need a small amount of royal icing and a bunch of small, rounded yellow headed stamens)



Roll out some petal paste thinly on a non stick board lightly greased with white fat.

Place the blossom cutter directly onto the paste and cut out blossom shapes. Transfer shapes to a petal pad

Place the small end of a dog bone tool or a small balling tool, into the centre of each blossom and use a circular motion to pipe a small cup each blossom.

Cut the tip off one end of the ready made stamens and insert through the centre of the blossom. Pipe a small dot of royal icing at the centre of the blossom to secure and leave to dry.

Hints and Tips 1

Make filler flowers and buds with any left over petal paste and store for use later.

Hints and Tips 2

Buds tend to be darker than the opened flower so try making the buds and some of the filler flowers in varying shades for added interest.

Hints and Tips 3

Making filler flowers in different shapes and sizes looks splendid. Think about using not just blossom cutters but small calyx or star cutters too.