

Making a Simple Rose

By Kathy Moore

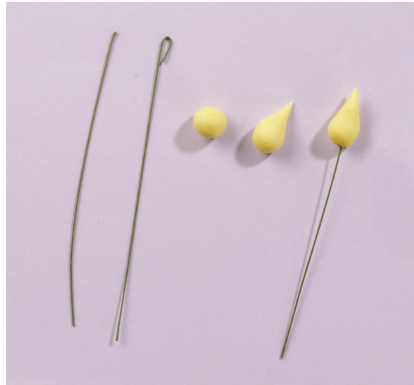
Equipment and materials to make a Simple Rose			
	✓		✓
Non stick board		Petal pad	
Non stick small rolling pin		Petal paste – colour of your choice	
White fat (e.g. White Flora etc.)		Dusting colours of your choice + dusting brush	
Dog bone tool		Multi blossom 5 petal cutters (e.g. PME, Orchard F6, FMM easy rose + calyx cutters)	
24# gauge green wires		Fine palette knife	
Edible glue and brush		Mid green florist tape cut into ¼ width	
Dog bone tool		Fine pointed scissors	

Roses throughout the ages remain eternally popular for decorations whether the celebration is a Wedding, Valentines Day, or simply a romantic gesture. The simplicity and beauty can be replicated in sugar quite easily, which is of great advantage to anyone starting to make sugar flowers. With a little practice these simply made roses look stunning and need little more to accompany them. Think about using ready made Bear Grass with the rose to give the finishing touches.

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Making the centre cone



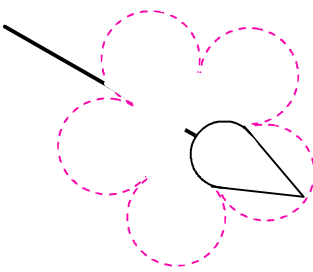
The size of the cone for the centre of the rose should be just under half the diameter of the cutter you are using. Try to obtain a sharp point at one end as this helps to give excellent shape to your finished rose

Cut a 24# gauge wire in half. Make a small hook at one end.

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

Dip the hooked end of the wire into glue and then insert into the base (fat end) of the cone. Leave to dry

Attaching the centre petals



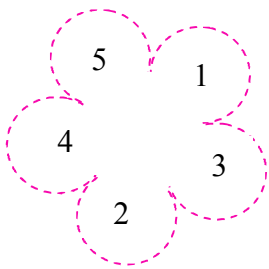
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On a non stick board, very lightly greased with white fat, roll out your petal paste thinly and cut out the rose shape. Transfer to a petal pad and using a dog bone tool, smooth the edges of each petal.

Lightly brush each petal with glue $\frac{3}{4}$ of the way up the petal. (Remember, you can always add more glue but you can't take it off!) Thread the centre cone through the petal shape as illustrated. Wrap the first petal very tightly around the cone. Repeat with the second. Wrap the remaining three petals less tightly around the cone making sure each petal is marginally above the centre, otherwise the rose will tend to look like a cabbage. Each petal should overlap the last.

Attaching the next layer of petals



Roll out your paste as before, very finely, transfer to the petal pad and smooth the edges of the petals with the dog bone tool. Place the dog bone tool gently onto the centre of one of the petals and use a circular motion to create a very shallow saucer shape. Turn the shape over. Using the tips of your fingers, or a cocktail stick, curl back the very tips of the petals to give them shape.

Lightly glue the base of the petals. Thread the centre of your rose through the petals and attach the petals quite loosely in the order above, overlapping each petal and leaving a gap between the layers. Make sure these petals are placed slightly higher than the first layer to prevent a 'cabbage' look. Leave to dry.

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Attaching the final layer of petals

Roll out the paste as before but this time use the next sized larger cutter if you have one. If not, simply roll out the paste slightly thicker, cut out the petals, and use your rolling pin to make each one slightly larger. The larger petals are more suited for the outer layer as they need to fill more space.

Smooth the petals on the pad, turn over, and curl the edges as before. Glue, thread your rose through and attach the petals to your rose loosely, leaving gaps and space between the layers. Leave to dry.

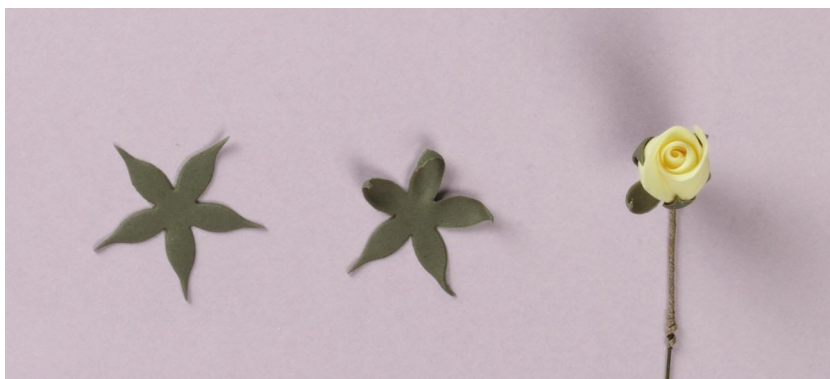


Adding a Calyx

Roll out some green petal paste very thinly. Cut out a calyx shape. Transfer to your petal pad and smooth the edges. This will also stretch the calyx. Using the tip of the dog bone tool and starting at the tip of the calyx, draw the tool down along the calyx to curl.

Lightly glue the calyx from centre to and half way along the calyx. Thread the rose through and attach, allowing the curls to remain loose and natural looking. Remember, the calyx on an open rose actually hangs down, but this may cause the calyx to break off whilst handling.

Roll a small ball of green petal paste, thread it through the rose and secure to the base of the calyx with a little glue. Allow your rose to dry.

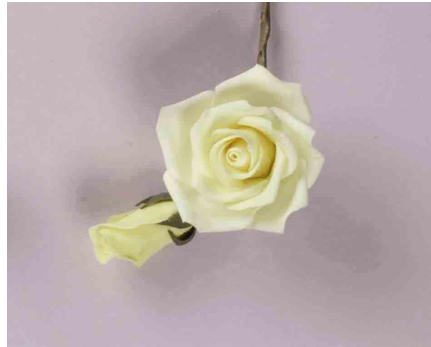


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Finishing touches

Use dusting powders, sparingly, to highlight the centre of the rose and to give depth of colour.



Helpful Hints and Tips 1

Make the rose cones the day before to allow them to dry before using and attaching the petals. This stops the cone from slipping off the wire.

Helpful Hints and Tips 2

Allowing the second and third layers of petals to dry very slightly before attaching them to the rose, helps to give shape as the paste has already started to retain its shape.

Helpful Hints and Tips 3

Pipe a tiny ball of piping gel onto one or two of the petals to create 'dewdrops'. Add a ladybird for a finishing touch.

Helpful Hints and Tips 4

Use smaller and larger cutters to create roses of differing sizes.