

# Paper Flower

## TUTORIAL

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### SUPPLIES

Crepe Paper  
18g Floral Wire (wrapped)  
Floral Tape  
Hot Glue Gun  
1" Styrofoam Ball  
Scissors  
Wire Cutters (optional)  
Included Templates

### RESOURCES

- 1) The best places to find Crepe Paper are Carte Fini, Papermart, or Castle in the Air. Most local craft stores do not sell Crepe Paper and can often only be found online. Any of the above retailers sell a large range of colors in different weights and thicknesses.
- 2) There are a few excellent paper crafting books that center primarily on paper florals. Be sure to check out the following: **Paper To Petal** by *Rebecca Thuss*, and **The Exquisite Book of Paper Flowers** by *Livia Cetti*.

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## INSTRUCTIONS

### BLOOM 1: PEONY

*Crepe Paper colors needed: Sage, Goldenrod, Pink Peony*

*Additional Supplies: (1) 18g floral wire, floral tape*

*Templates To Cut: Center Stamen - A(1) in Sage, Fringe - E(1) in Goldenrod, Inner Petals - F(6) in Pink, Middle Petals - H(6) in Pink, Outer Petals G(10-12) in Pink, Small Leaves - I(3) in Sage*

1. First cut your stamen, fringe, petals and leaves using the corresponding templates in the indicated quantities above. When cutting crepe paper, remember you always want the grain of the paper to run vertical. Be sure to lineup templates with this in mind before starting to trim.
2. Take your center stamen piece (sage) and fringe every 1/8" about 3/4 of the way down. Be sure not to cut too far down, which can weaken the paper. Set aside.
3. You will do the exact same thing for your fringe piece (goldenrod). Cut every 1/8" about 3/4 of the way down the strip. Again remember the grain should be running vertically. After you have fringed the entire length, take every 3 pieces of fringe and twist together. Don't pull too hard in this step or you may wrip some fringe off. Slowly unwrap each twist so that the pieces are separate once again. This is to help give some more realistic texture to your flower center.

4. You will now wrap your center stamen around a piece of floral wire. Lay the fringed center flat and apply a thin strip of hot glue along the bottom edge. Start at one side, and slowly wrap the center fringe around the wire in a tight coil. After the glue has dried, you can gently fan out fringe a little, but do not bend or pull down.
  5. Now grab your longer fringe in goldenrod and do the exact thing you did with your stamen piece. You may need to apply the hot glue twice here so it won't dry as you wrap it around the wire. Once secured separate out fringe a little and make sure pieces are clumping together.
  6. Before adding petals, you will first need to sculpt them. The crepe paper is excellent for holding form so use it to create various shapes to mimic real petals. By placing both thumbs in the center of the petal and then gently pulling outward you will get a "cup" look. You can also fan the petals out more if you would like, round the top edges, and even ruffle the petals as well. Prep all petals and lay them out to glue.
  7. Starting with the tear drop petals, glue 4 evenly around the center with the base of the petal starting near the base of the goldenrod fringe. Only apply glue to the bottom 1/2" of the petal. Once all 4 have been attached use the remaining 2 to fill in any gaps and create a fuller center.
  8. Now adhere the remaining 10-12 petals. Be sure to have petals overlap one another always adding petals in a circular motion around the center. Check to make sure one side isn't weighted more than the other, and do your best to distribute petals evenly.
  9. Once all petals have been attached you will add your 3 small leaves. As you did with the petals, use fingers to stretch and form the crepe paper into a more realistic leaf shape. You will place leaves evenly around the base of the bloom adding glue to only about 1/4" of each leaf.
  10. Now you are ready to wrap your stem! With your roll of floral tape, place a small dab of glue on the end of your floral tape and adhere it at the base of one leaf. As you lightly pull, wrap floral tape around the base of the leaves and then continue wrapping down the wire stem. The floral tape has a small amount of adhesive and will stick to itself when lightly stretched out. Continue wrapping to about halfway down the stem (if you plan to display in a vase or vessel) or wrap the entire stem if you plan to display on it's own. *Optional* - feel free to add additional leaves along stem if you don't plan to display with real or faux greenery.
  11. Trim wire as needed with scissors or wire cutter.
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## **BLOOM 2: WILDFLOWER**

*Crepe Paper colors needed: Sage, Goldenrod, French Vanilla*

*Additional Supplies: (1) 18g floral wire, floral tape*

*Templates To Cut: Center Stamen - A(1) in Sage, Fringe - C(1) in Goldenrod, Petals - K(6) in French Vanilla, Small leaves - J(4) in Sage*

1. First cut your stamen, fringe, petals and leaves using the corresponding templates in the indicated quantities above. When cutting crepe paper, remember you always want the grain of the paper to run vertical . Be sure to lineup templates with this in mind before starting to trim.
  2. Complete Steps 2-6 in the Peony section above.
  3. Next adhere 3 petals evenly around the center. Once they have dried, add the remaining 3 to fill in gaps and create a fuller bloom. After all petals have dried gently, fan them out away from the center at different angles.
  4. Complete steps 9-11 in the Peony section above.
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### **BLOOM 3: POPPY**

*Crepe Paper colors needed: Sage, Goldenrod, Light Pink (Sweet Pea)*

*Additional Supplies: (1) 18g floral wire, floral tape, 1" styrofoam ball*

*Templates To Cut: Center core - H(1) in Sage, Fringe - B(1) in Goldenrod, Petals - I(5) in Light Pink, Small leaves - F(4) in Sage*

1. First cut your stamen, fringe, petals and leaves using the corresponding templates in the indicated quantities above. When cutting crepe paper, remember you always want the grain of the paper to run vertical . Be sure to lineup templates with this in mind before starting to trim.
  2. Complete Step 3 in the Peony section above.
  3. Next place a small dab of glue on the end of your floral wire and insert into center of your styrofoam ball. Once dry, place small dots of glue on top and sides of styrofoam ball and wrap in the center core (in sage) template. Center of template will match up with the top center of the styrofoam ball. There may be some rippling which is fine. Twist edges around wire at the base of the ball and use hot glue to adhere.
  4. Complete steps 5 in the Peony section above.
  5. Once fringe has been attached you can start to add petals. Petals should be placed evenly around center overlapping with some above others to give a sightly layered look. Feel free to fan out petals to create depth and make the flower appear more realistic.
  6. Complete steps 9-11 in the Peony section above.
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**NOTES :** You can also use acrylic paint and watercolor paints to add texture and subtle details to your paper florals. When displaying your paper blooms, faux greenery and real greenery can help them appear more realistic in a space.

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## TEMPLATES

