

Flowers for My Dollhouse

By Nancy Rhode

Here's a nudge toward spring. Make three types of flowers and some leaves this month, and make more plants for your garden using instructions from the next issue.

What You'll Need:

- Covered wire - 26 gauge
- Glue - thin (Sobo) and Tacky
- Acrylic paints: Green, Yellow
- Small paintbrush
- Silk ribbon - $\frac{1}{8}$ " Red, White or Pink
- Scissors
- Wire cutters
- Ruler
- Paper punch - $\frac{1}{4}$ " circle
- Needle and thread
- End papers (from beauty supply stores)
- Polymer clay
- Lined notebook paper - $\frac{1}{4}$ " spaces
- Toothpick
- Optional: Colored or painted papers, markers or colored pencils

Daisies

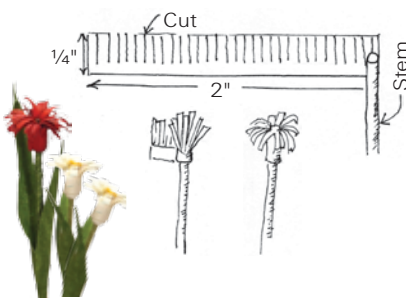
1. For stems, use fingers to spread green paint on a 6" length of covered wire. When dry, cut the wire into 2" pieces. Dip one end of each wire into a blob of unbaked polymer clay till dry.

2. Cut a strip of paper 2" X $\frac{1}{4}$ ". Cut edge of paper into fringe about $\frac{1}{16}$ " wide and $\frac{3}{16}$ " deep.

3. Run a thin bead of glue along the uncut edge. Attach one end of paper strip to top of stem with fringe above the yellow tip.

Hold the paper in place and roll the strip around the wire 3 or 4 times. Cut off excess paper. Let dry.

4. Open the petals, pressing them away from the center.



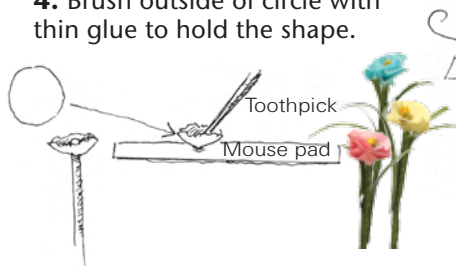
Punched Flowers

1. Make stems as for daisies.

2. Punch several circles of notebook paper. Cut off tip of toothpick. Place one circle in the palm of your hand and press down with the blunt end of the toothpick to make the circle edges curl. (You can also do this on a large flat eraser or mouse pad.)

3. With sharp end of toothpick, poke hole in center. Thread flower onto stem until yellow center is above punched circle. Dot glue around center to hold.

4. Brush outside of circle with thin glue to hold the shape.



Variations: Use colored or painted papers. Try various shapes or sizes of punches. Draw on circles with markers or colored pencils. Stack circles.



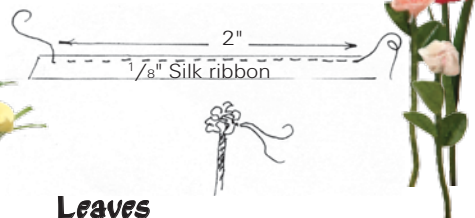
Carnations

1. Make stem as for daisies, but do not dip tip in paint.

2. Make tiny running stitches along one edge of silk ribbon for about 2", leaving a 3" thread tail at beginning. Cut ribbon $\frac{1}{4}$ " from last stitch. Cut thread 3" long.

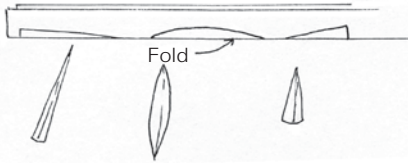
3. Pull ribbon together and tie thread ends together tightly to form ribbon into a ruffled ball. Glue knot.

4. Apply glue to tip of one stem. Insert tip into ruffle.

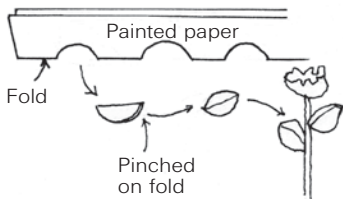


Leaves

Make leaves from painted end papers, painted or colored paper. Make them as thick or thin as you like and color them with paint, markers or colored pencils. Punch out or cut with scissors.

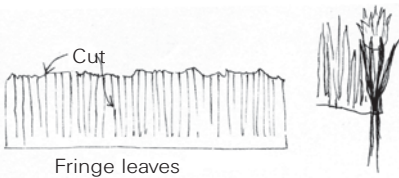


Punched leaves: Fold painted (on both sides) paper and crease. Position circle punch so it is half on the fold. Punch. Open leaf and glue to stem.



Cut leaves: Fold painted paper and crease. Cut a long or short triangle, or a curved shape tapering to points at both ends. Open leaf and glue to stem.

Fringe leaves: Cut a strip of painted paper the height of leaves, cutting the top edge irregularly. Cut slits from top edge to 1/8" above bottom edge. Glue to stem, wrapping lower edge one or more times.



We'll learn to make more flowers, fillers and bows next time. ■

Miniature Collector will pay \$50 for published "Kids' Corner" projects. Criteria: Easy-to-follow, brief instructions; accurate scale; inexpensive; attractive; original; and fun! Send a sample project and instructions to: "Kids' Corner," Scott Publications, 2145 W. Sherman Blvd., Norton Shores, MI 49441-3434. Include postage if you want materials returned.

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