

Hibiscus Flower Instructions

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Supplies and Tools

- Wire 20g, 26g, and 28g
- Gumpaste yellow or color of choice
- Hibiscus cutter – Nicholas Lodge or Ateco tear drop cutter can be used as well
- Egg white, Crisco®, cornstarch
- Dusting Colors Yellow, Orange,
- Dresden Tool
- Silk veining tool
- Ball tool
- Flat angled brushes
- Green floral tape
- Celboard
- Celpad
- Large CelPin
- Plastic flap
- Pallet knife
- Steamer
- Celcraft Styrofoam™ shapers

1. Shape a well-kneaded piece of yellow gum paste into a rope and cover the grooves on a celboard. Press down on the gumpaste to adhere, and then roll it out fairly thin. Be sure it is long enough to cut out the petal. Turn it over, and then cut 5 petals all facing the same direction if using the hibiscus cutter. Place them under plastic while working to prevent drying out.
2. Cut a length of 26g wire, dip into egg white or gum glue, then insert into the ridge. Hold the petal so your finger and thumb cover the ridge while inserting the wire. Note: If the wire pops through you can pull it back and reinsert.
3. Lay the petal face up on the Celpad and thin the edges with a ball tool. Next, with the thinner end of Dresden tool and some pressure, pull out the paste along the top edge of the petal. Pull straight up, not at an angle. You don't want the petal to widen.
4. Lay the petal flat on the soft side of the Celpad and roll the silk veining tool back and forth over the entire petal to add texture. Move the petal to the edge of the softening pad and hold the silk veining tool at an angle. Roll it back and forth in small bits with some pressure picking it up to move it along the top blending the frilled edges. To add some additional texture and movement, roll the silk veining tool back and forth in small sections adding hills and valleys.
5. Place the petals in the cell former shaping the top part of the petal to add movement. Place each petal over the previous one and tuck the last petal under the first petal. Place some tissue under different sections of the petals for additional movement. Note: You might need to check it periodically as it dries to be sure the petal is keeping the shape.

The Stigmas and Pistol

6. Cut a 30g wire into 5 short pieces bending a tiny hook for the stigmas. Roll a tiny ball of yellow gum paste (smaller than a pinhead) into a ball. Insert the hooked wire into the base and pinch. Then leave to dry. When they are dry, tape them to the tip of a 28g wire using ¼ white floral tape.
7. Cut a length of 28g white wire. Take a small ball of well-kneaded yellow gum paste and roll it into a long thin sausage, which should be thinner at the top. Use the pallet knife to cut it in half making sure not to cut all the way through. Open it up and brush egg white inside then, lay the wire inside then pinch it closed at the seam. Smooth over the seam with your fingers as necessary adding a bit of Crisco® to your fingers to make it easier to smooth out the seam. Note: make the pistol at least the length of the hibiscus cutter.
8. Hold the pistol at the base and the tip pulling it over to slightly curve it. Petal dust the pistol with a mixture of Yellow and a bit of Tangerine. Petal dust one 33g wire yellow then cut into short pieces for the filament, dipping one end in egg white. Gently push them in at an angle around the top of the pistol. When they are all in, dot the tips with egg white and dip into yellow cornmeal. Allow it to dry.

Petal Dusting

9. Brush both front and back of the petals with yellow starting from the base toward the tip. Brush tangerine onto the petals from the tip downward toward the base in small sections just a little way down to add highlights. Then brush tangerine from the base up just a short way. Lastly, tap off the excess petal dust from the brush and blend the colors starting from the tip down.

10. Tape the spadex to a 20g wire using ½ width green floral tape, taping down the wire. Next, tape the 5 petals with ½ width floral tape adding one petal then wrapping the tape once completely around then adding the remaining 4 petals in the same way. When they are all attached, you can adjust them a bit to show a little movement to the flower. Steam the flower so the color is set.



Step 1



Step 2



Step 3a



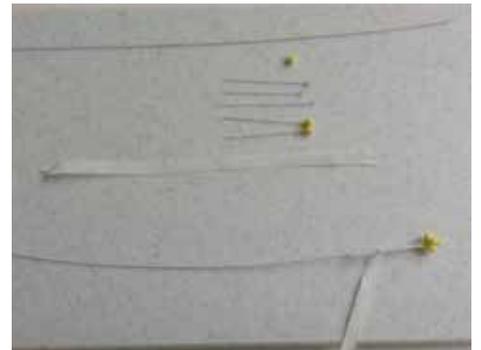
Step 3b



Step 4



Step 5



Step 6



Step 7



Step 8a



Step 8b



Step 9a



Step 9b



Step 10