

Flower Pressing

by Rhian Sutcliffe

1 - Gather your flowers

Gather some small leaves and flowers - only picking flowers that are growing wild such as daisies, dandelions, bluebells and forget-me-nots, or taking flowers that have already fallen to the floor. You can often find wild flowers growing at the side of footpaths, near rivers, streams and ponds and places that are overgrown with nature.

2 - Press your flowers

Press your flowers in either...

a) A flower press

b) A book

For both of these methods... spread the flowers evenly over the surface of a sheet of paper. Lay another sheet of paper over the top so the flowers are sandwiched between two sheets. Then either place this between the very last two pages in a large heavy book and close the book on top them, or place between two sheets of card in a flower press. Leave for a minimum of 2 weeks.



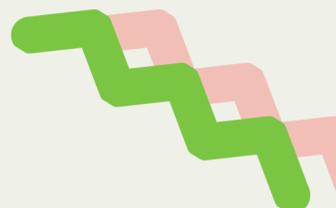
3 - Cut card to size

Cut your card the size you would like to work with. If using watercolour paper you can fold and then rip the edges of your paper to give a more natural effect.

Step 4 - Draw a shape



Draw a shape in pencil on the front of your card. This could be a heart, circle, triangle or even someone's initial.



Step 5 - Position and attach flowers

Experiment with the layout of your design by positioning the flowers and petals onto your pencil lines. Think about what colours complement one another and what sort of patterns you might be able to create. Once you are happy with your design, move the flowers gently to the edges of your card. Using a small paint brush, apply a thin line of glue over your pencil line, then place the flowers onto the glue in the position of your design.

