

PAPAYER POPPY

Tools and equipment

Flowerpaste of your choice - Different pastes will be available in different parts of the world, you will need to test some pastes and see which one works for you in your region. Simply Heaven Ultra Fine paste is my preferred one - but everyone has different temperature of hands and will have their own preference. Renshaws and squires dry very quickly so can crack if you are taking longer to work with it, platinum paste, piece of cake and saracino don't like humid atmospheres but can be rolled nice and thin, smartflex takes at least 2 - 3 days to dry properly , maybe even longer. You can of course make your own, there are many good recipes out there - the best ones I have found are Marilyn Hill's, Lesley Herbert's and Nicholas Lodge's and you can also mix pastes together to suit you.

Paste/gel/dust colours - You will only need colours for paste if you want to start with a base colour or you can use pre coloured paste - I used Fractal Colors 'Grass green' for the centre and seed head and pre-coloured red paste with some white paste added for the poppy petals

Wires 20 and 22 gauge wires for centre and petals, 30 gauge wire for stamens

Wire cutters

Florist Tape - mid green florist tape (nile green or light moss)

Stamens - several bunches of long thin lily stamens are the best but any similar ones will do

non stick board (grooved if you like to use grooved board) & nonslip mat

foam pad

rolling pin

Cornflour pouch and / or trex

sugar glue (made with tylo or egg white)

brush for glue

tea light and matches/lighter (if you have them)

ball or bone tools

dresden tool

skewer

cutting wheel or craft knife

large spoon - for pressing the curve into your petal

tinfoil or dimpled foam pad

oasis block/polystyrene for dry flower arranging

Dust colours: selection of whatever colours you have that are appropriate - the ones I have used are:

Green: Sugarflair 'moss green',

Yellow: Sugarflair 'lemon' or a similar colour

White dust colour or cornflour

Roxy & Rich - Black,

Sugarflair - chocolate

Purple: Fractal Colors 'orchid purple'

Sugarflair "poppy red", Edable Art "Scarlett"

Selection of dusting brushes

Camera blower

Airbrush Colour (optional) - black, for painting stamens , you can also use black dust with rejuvenator or alcohol

Rejuvenator spirit or food grade Ethanol/Isopropyl or vodka
Box and tinfoil or parchment for dusting over
kitchen roll or tissues for taking off excess dust colours
Steamer (Beldray handheld clothes steamers you can find for £10)
Largest Jubilee Rose **Cutter - OR** a template