

Plentiful Programs

Creative Workshops for Children and Adults

Creative Coffee Filter Flowers

Materials

(Makes 10 grapefruit size paper peony looking flowers)

- 60 standard size coffee filters
- 2 colors of acrylic paint. similar in tone (yellow/orange, pink/red, blue/purple)
- 3 cups of water in 3 separate containers
- 10 plastic drinking straws
- Masking tape (use green tape if you want a covered stem, but any tape will work fine)

Instructions

1. Prepare three dye baths; deep, medium, pale.
2. Divide your filters into three separate groups;
 - inside/deepest color/10 filters
 - middle/medium color/20 filters
 - outside/palest color/30 filters
3. Submerge in dye baths. Remove after one minute for pale color, or remove after 1 hour for more intense results.



4. Wring filters to remove excess water and dye. Separate filters and hang to dry. Once they are thoroughly dry, organize your filters by depth of color: deep/inside, medium/middle, pale/outside

5. Fold and snip. Cut one small hole in the middle of each filter and trim jagged edges around the rim. The deepest color filters should have the most ragged edges, while

the palest filters should have mildly curvaceous edges.

Note: Keep filters in stacks at all times



6. Lay out components to make one flower: 1 deepest color filter (inside), 2 medium color filters (middle), 3 pale filters (outside), one drinking straw, masking tape.

7. Take the deepest color filter and twist in the center. Tape the twist to the tip of the drinking straw. Take the drinking straw and insert in the center hole you snipped into the two middle layer filters.



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8. Pull the middle layer up around the inner layer, twist, and tape. Pull the outside layer up around the inside/middle layer, twist, and tape.

9. To add a stem, tear off 12" of green tape and attach leaves (Dyed green filters) at random intervals. Wrap and twist tape down around the drink straw, snip at desired length. Gently pull back petals and behold your beautiful paper peony!



Expect the first flower to take ten minutes and come out looking poorly. Stick with it! With practice, they will be beautiful and take less than a minute. Get an assembly line going and you will have a paper bouquet before you know it!

Color and cut your filters many ways for many flowers!

