



Module 4 - Section 2 - Making a Rose

Objective: To create a flower paste rose.

In completing each section the user will be able to:

- Use and store flower paste correctly
- Make delicate flower paste rose petals
- Build up layers of rose petals
- Create a calyx to compliment the rose
- Complete a beautiful rose by adding dusted colours

Assessment criteria:

1. Define the options to create a rose centre
2. Demonstrate how to create the rose petals
3. Define how to add the second layer of petals
4. Produce a neat rose flower
5. Describe the optimum drying conditions for the rose
6. Demonstrate how to make and add the calyx
7. Demonstrate adding the dusting colour the rose

You will Need:

TOOLS

Knives

- Sharp cutting knife

Modelling tools

- Ball tool

Cakey tools

- Rapid Rose Support Pad
- Small rolling pin

Cutters

- 10cm rose cutter
- Medium sized calyx cutter

Paintbrushes

- No 6

Other

- Scissors
- Polystyrene block to hold flowers
- 2cm x 3cm polystyrene oval/cone glued on to a 20g white wire
- Hot glue gun (or strong glue)
- Ruler

- Kitchen Roll

INGREDIENTS

Flower Paste

- 60g White - Squires Kitchen

Petal dusts

- Magenta - Sunflower Sugar Art
- Rose - Rainbow Dust
- Foliage green - Sugarflair

Pro Gels

- Pink - Fractal Colours
- Holly green - Rainbow Dust

Other

- 20 gauge florist wire
- Cornflour puff bag
- Edible glue
- White vegetable fat (Trex or Crisco)

Method:

- Create or purchase a dummy rose centre
- Insert a 20 gauge wire into the rose centre then leave to dry/set
- Mix some rose pro gel colour with the white flower paste
- Roll until transparent (1mm)
- Cut out three petals using the 5 petal cutter (2 will be used in the last layer of petals)
- Soften the edges of one petal using a ball tool
- Wrap the first petal around the rose centre, to give a bud effect
- Cut out 5 petals
- Add the first petal to cover the join from the first layer
- Add a second petal, skipping one place from the cut out petals, to form a spiral around the bud
- Add the third layer using the three remaining petals
- Add a layer of 5 petals
- Finish with a layer of 7 petals
- Add the calyx
- Dust to finish

Supporting Notes:

With the variety of colours and shades, along with their distinctive petals, the rose is one of the most popular flowers displayed on a cake. Flower paste is ideal for making a delicate rose and with a cutter and rapid rose pad, great results can be achieved.

Rose displays will often require a lot of roses to be made, so it is worth thinking first about all the extra weight on the cake. One way to reduce the weight and make the cake decorator's life easier, is to use a polystyrene cone shaped centre. If that is not available, then the centre can be made from flower paste, but the extra weight must be a consideration.

The centres need to be wired. There are a couple of options. Paul used a 20 gauge florist wire pushed into a 2cm x 3cm polystyrene oval/cone and stuck in place with a hot glue gun. If the cone is made from flower paste the stem can be either a cocktail stick or 20 gauge wire. To make sure the wire sticks, create a small hook at the end then leave for 24-48 hours to set. If choosing to use a cocktail stick, leave plenty of time to ensure that the stick is set and firmly stuck to the paste.

Before getting started, add some colour to the flower paste. Mix in a little pink pro gel to the white flower paste, until the desired shade is achieved. Dust colouring can be added later so the shade of flower paste is very much the base colour.

Flower paste is extremely flexible and can be rolled out until it's transparent. This allows delicate petals and flowers to be made, which couldn't be achieved with other media. Paul starts by rolling the flower paste to 1mm thick, then cuts out three petals using the 10cm rose cutter. At this point we just want to use one of the petals and the other two will be used to make up the last two petals in the final row. Remember to put all the flower paste not being worked on into an airtight bag or container. Lightly soften the edges of the petal with the ball tool. Ensure that the soft edge is created with the ball tool half on the petal and half on the mat, which gives the best finish. This will form the inner petal of the rose. Wet one side of the petal then wrap it around the polystyrene/flower paste centres, making sure that the fold shows the start of the rose bud effect. The wet paste helps the flower paste stick to the centre piece. If you need further guidance, Paul demonstrates the process in the accompanying video.

To make the second and third layers, cut out all five petals using the petal cutter. Soften the edges as before, flip the petals upside down and place on the petal foam pad. Apply a light layer of sugar glue, then bring the wire stem of the flower through the hole in the petal foam pad. The second layer consists of two petals from the five on the petal foam pad. The first should be used to cover the join from the first petal, then should be shaped into place. You can go either way, but miss out one of the remaining petals, then select the next to form the second of the petals in the second layer. Position both neatly and tightly, then start off the third layer with the remaining three petals, again starting with the first to cover the join from the previous layer. The fourth layer will use a further five petals, repeating the same process, adding some extra curl to the petals. It is worth hanging the rose upside down to dry at this stage, which allows time for the fifth layer of petals to be cut. Again, curl the ends and start by covering the join of the previous layer. The final layer has seven petals. Use the five petal cutter and cut a layer of five plus two extras. Add and shape as before, leaving space for the final two petals to be added. Once the rose has been finished, leave it for 10-20 mins before adding dusting colours. Paul shows how to build up the layers in the accompanying video.

Once all the petals have been added, this is where the finesse happens. Make sure all the petals are shaped and are in position. Do not be afraid to turn the rose upside down and work that way around. Leave the rose to dry, which gives time to create the calyx.

Colour up some white flower paste with a green pro gel, to get the shade of paste for the calyx. Cut the piece using the medium calyx cutter, then thin and frill the edges using the ball tool. Score through the centre of each leaf with the ball tool, which provides extra shaping. Finish off by snipping the very ends of the sepals to create a staggered rough look. Create a small cone from the green coloured paste, then add a little sugar glue on each of the leaves. Place the calyx through the wire so it sits below the rose, which is handy as it covers all the rose petal joins. Add the cone shape of paste to the wire to smooth the transition from the calyx.

The rose really comes to life when the petals are dusted. Paul mixes magenta and rose dust colours to a shade to complement the rose then applies using the No 6 paintbrush. Using the stronger magenta colour, add some extra colour to the tips and underneath the petals. Finish by brushing on some green dust to the calyx, take time to sit back and admire the beautiful rose.