

YOUR BIRTHDAY GIFT

CHOOSE THE FLOWER OF THE MONTH

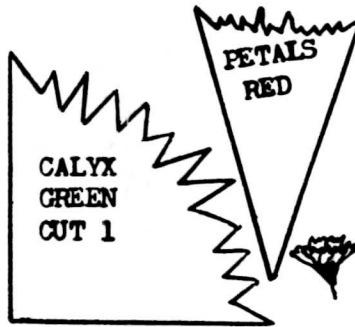
Many materials may be used for making these birthday flowers: felt from old hats, flannel, leather from worn gloves and belts, silk and satin, many plastics, which may be painted, crepe

paper, wood fiber, even cleansing tissues, which may be dyed. Accurate cutting lines and color suggestions for each flower follow. As a rule, one is enough for a boutonniere; you might use

several flowers of one sort for a bouquet; or several of different sorts may be used together if they harmonize. To add long stems, use covered wire or wrap ordinary wire with green crepe paper, thread or yarn.

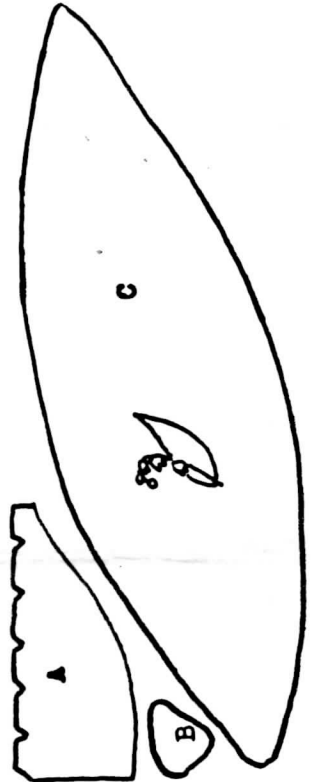
January—Carnation

Cut a dozen or more petals and bunch the pointed ends together tight, catching securely with strong thread. Wrap this cluster with the green piece, to form a calyx; blindstitch its edges together or lace them closely with matching floss into a trumpet shape and fasten to petals. Attach a small safety pin.



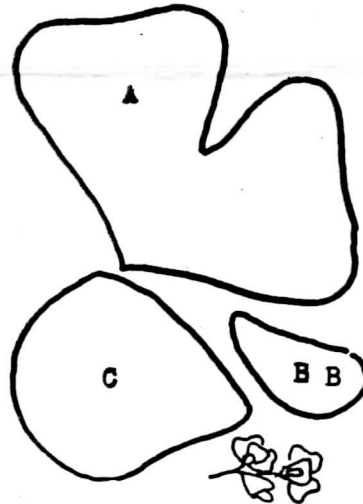
October—Cosmos

White, lavender or golden yellow may all be used for cosmos, and they may be made from the pattern for carnations—JANUARY. Make a yellow wool pompon about 3/8 inch across, or use a cluster of stamens for a center and add a single row of petals.



February—Violet

Cut flowers, as many as you like, from a piece of purple or lavender; add French knot centers of yellow floss. Separate the strands at one end of a four-inch piece of picture wire and slip each strand through the center of a flower for a stem. Cut 2 leaves of soft green and whip a loop of wire to center for stem and vein. Wind all stems with floss or crepe paper and gather into a cluster.



April—Sweet Peas

Cut A and B from pink and other piece from a darker shade. Twist the curved edges to ruffle them. Slip a single strand of picture wire into tip of the smallest piece and wind green thread or floss over the base, then fold other pieces over this, largest on outside; fasten all and wind stem with green thread. Make two more blossoms and attach to stem below the first flower; continue winding stem.

May—Lily of the Valley

Cut 2 leaves (C) from green; from white, cut as many of A as desired, then about half as many buds (B). Fold double, two strands of picture wire, about 10 inches long, for stems. Into the loop, sew a folded bud; winding green floss around bud end at wire; add other buds at 1/4-inch intervals; then add the flowers, made by rolling the A pieces from the small end, tied at base; wind in with stem and green thread. Put inside folded leaf.

March—Daffodil

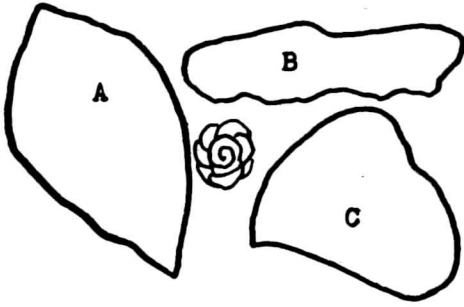
The rectangular piece makes the center trumpet. Pull and twist the curved edge to flare it. Lace the side edges together with matching floss; stamens are three finely cut strips. Make 6 petals; twist and cup one end of each to shape it. Gather center at base and arrange petals around it; secure with strong thread. Wind green floss around base for stem.



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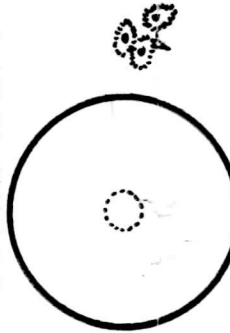
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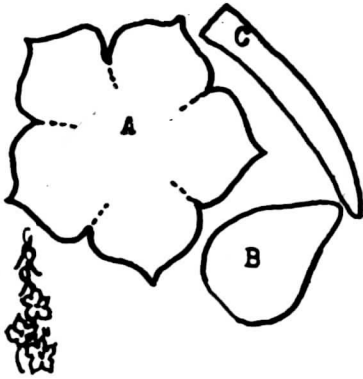
June—Roses

Cut from pink 14 or 16 petals (C) and 2 centers (B). Roll a center from either end quite tightly, catch with thread and arrange 6 or 7 petals around it, fastening them at the tips, overlapping edges. Add a wire stem, short or long, winding it with green floss and wind in a leaf or two.



September—Aster

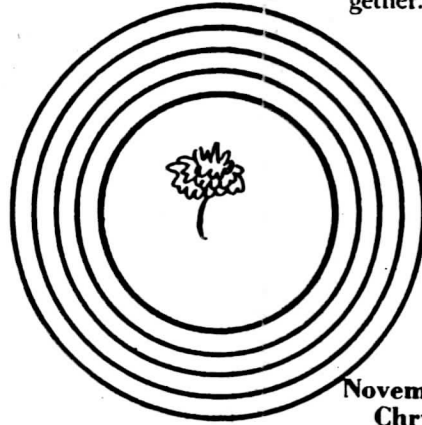
Cut 6 or 8 large circles from lavender. Snip edges of all circles closely, about $\frac{3}{8}$ inch deep. With strong green thread, take two stitches cross-wise in the center of each circle. Draw very tight to fluff the flower; knot at the back. Add a tiny yellow center; fasten each to a doubled strand of picture wire, then twist several stems together.



July—Larkspur

Cut 4 or 5 flowers from blue; buds (B) and spurs (C), can be cut from a lighter color; slash petals as indicated and twist them to curl. With yellow thread, make a fairly large cross stitch in center, catch a spur at the back and draw floss into a tight square knot to fluff flower. A bit of black or yellow floss may be added to the centers.

Fold and tie buds in middle; arrange them on stems of picture wire, wrapping them on with green floss. Begin with the tight buds and work down to the open flowers—winding all stems.



November—

Chrysanthemum

Cut 4 or 5 circles of graduated sizes, as given here. Twist edges to ruffle slightly. Then snip into petals about $\frac{1}{8}$ inch wide with slightly curved edges and tapered points. Sew one atop the next larger until all are together. Petals may be twisted a bit more to cup them, if desired. Attach to lapel with a small safety pin.

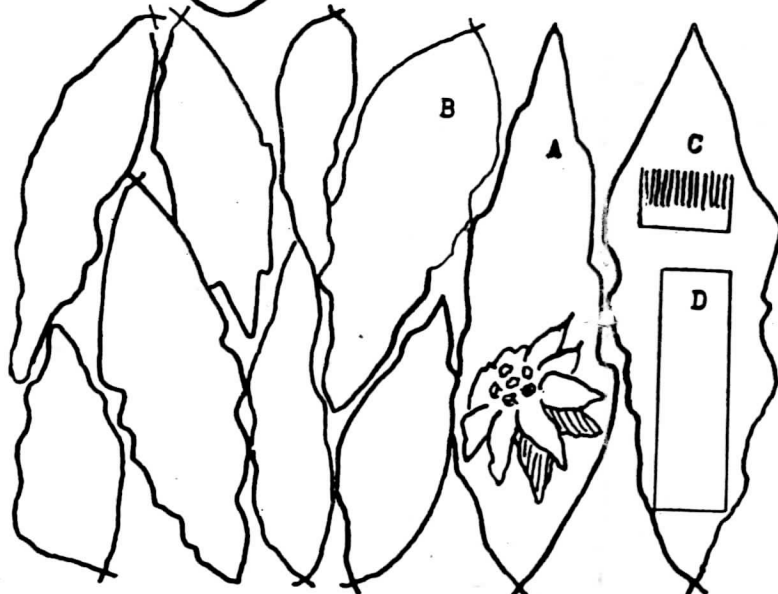
August—Poppy

To make a pretty poppy, cut four or five petals of pink, white, salmon, rose or red (yellow for a California poppy). Roll a green center from a piece about a half inch by two—one edge may be pinked. Around this, arrange the petals; long stitches radiating from the center may be orange on yellow, black on red or white on pink. Yellow or black stamens or French knots may be used.



December—Poinsettia

Cut petals as marked from red; cut A and B from green for lower leaves. Cut 6 or 7 C pieces from green and the same number of D from yellow. Snip C pieces finely as shown. Roll each lengthwise, fringed end up; roll a D around it. Take a few firm stitches through rolls at base and arrange all in a tight cluster. Give a tight pull or twist to petal edges to ruffle them. Arrange with X-ends around the yellow and green centers—the real blossoms—in a pleasing manner. Add green leaves; secure all with firm stitches and add a tiny safety pin—result a pretty boutonniere.



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