

## HOW TO MAKE A GUM PASTE PEONY ROSE

In this tutorial I will show you how to make a gum paste peony rose. I made the rose over a couple of days to ensure that I had allowed plenty of drying time between some steps.



### ITEMS YOU WILL NEED:

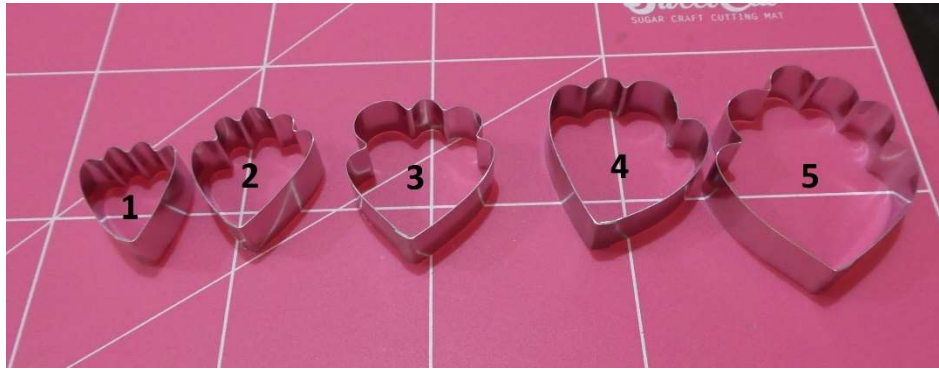
- Gum paste
- Small round Styrofoam ball (approximately 2.5cm in diameter) Use a larger or smaller one as required
- Floral wire
- Florist tape
- Craft Glue
- Small rolling pin
- Peony cutters – I used 5 different sizes
- Petal imprinter
- Thin foam
- Ball tool
- Edible Glue
- Small brush
- Flower hanger or somewhere to hang the flower upside down to dry
- 8 Teaspoons
- Cling Wrap / Plastic Wrap
- Glass
- Large Flower former

### STEP 1

Cut the floral wire to about 12 cm in length and wrap with the florist tape – leaving approximately 2-3 cm at the top. Dip the top of the wire into the craft glue then insert into the Styrofoam ball, ensuring that you do not push it all the way through. Allow to dry for at least ½ an hour.



## STEP 2

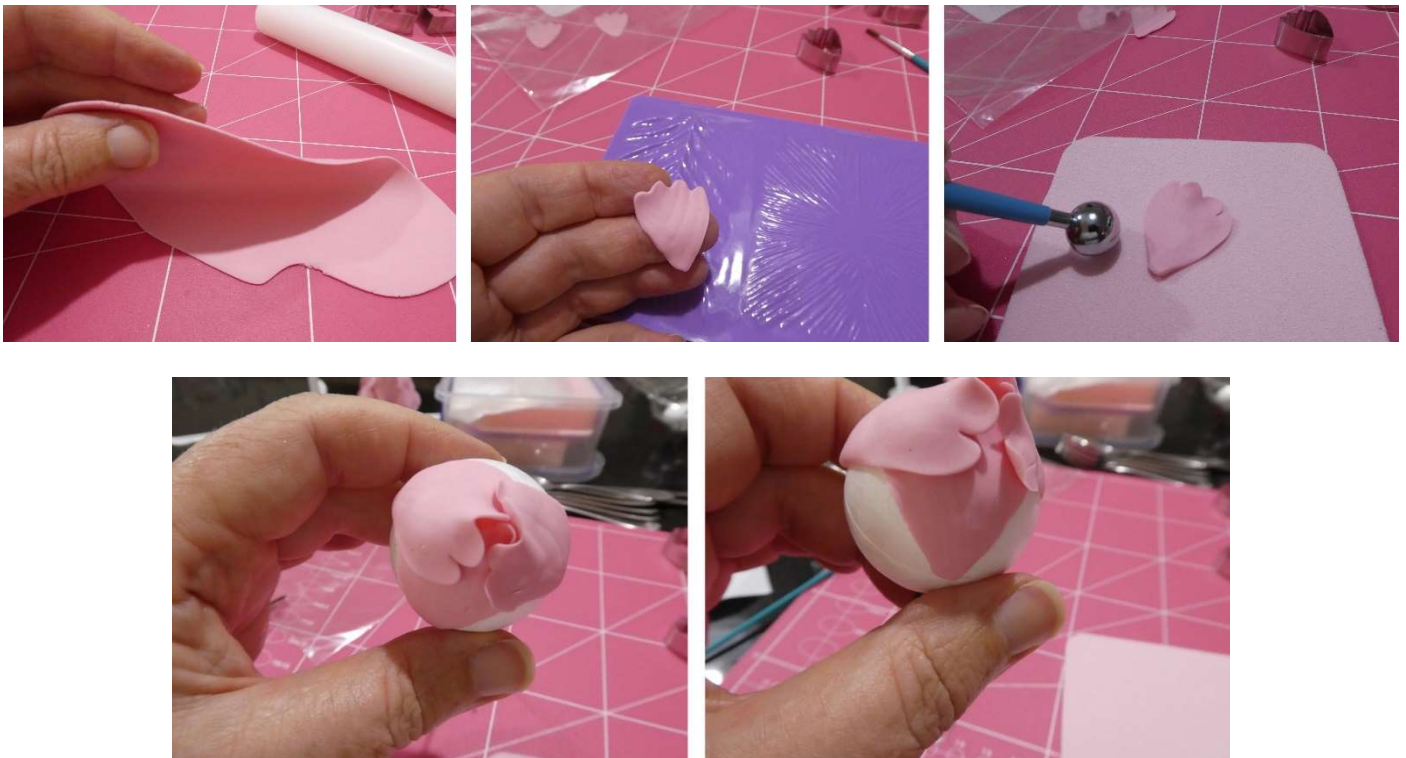


Knead a small amount of gum paste until it is soft and pliable, then roll out as thinly as you can (approximately 1-2mm). Using the smallest cutter (#1) cut out 3 small peony petals. Place under some plastic whilst you work on each petal.

Using your petal imprinter, press the petal gently to imprint the pattern. Place the petal on thin foam. Holding the ball tool like a pencil, just touching the edge of the gum paste, slide the ball tool around the petal, keeping it mostly on the foam outlining and thinning the petal edge as you go around. Make sure the tool only touches the edge of the petals.

Put a small amount of edible glue on the back of the petals and glue the 3 petals onto the Styrofoam ball to form the centre of the rose, overlapping in the centre – refer to photos below.

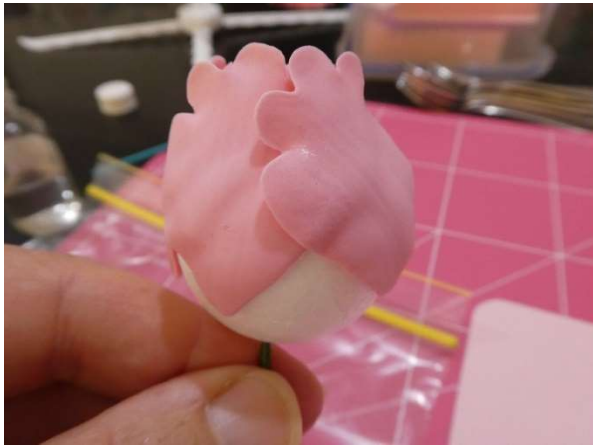
Hang the flower upside down to dry whilst you make the next row of petals.



## STEP 3

Using the second smallest cutter (#2) cut out 6 peony petals and repeat as per Step 2.

Using a small amount of edible glue on the bottom half of the back of the petals, stick around the Styrofoam ball, overlapping the petals as you go around as per the photos below. Hang to dry.



#### STEP 4

Using the next size cutter (#3) cut out 8 peony petals, imprint and use the balling tool as per Step 2, however as you finish each petal place them in a teaspoon with the imprinted side down. Allow to dry for about 20 minutes as this will allow them to hold their shape a little better.

After 20 minutes, use a small amount of the edible glue on the bottom ½ of the back of the petals and stick around the Styrofoam ball, overlapping the petals as you go around as per the photos below.

Hang upside down and allow to dry overnight if possible or for at least 4-5 hours.



#### STEP 5

Using the next size cutter (#4) cut out 8 peony petals, imprint and use the balling tool as per Step 2, however as you finish each petal place them in a teaspoon with the imprinted side down. Allow to dry for about 20 minutes as this will allow them to hold their shape a little better.

After 20 minutes, use a small amount of the edible glue on the bottom ½ of the back of the petals and stick around the Styrofoam ball, overlapping the petals as you go around as per previous steps.

Repeat this process, cutting out 8 petals with the last cutter (#5).

#### STEP 6

The final step is to shape the last 2 rows of petals and dry your flower. You can do this by hanging it upside down or if you want to keep the petals further apart you can cut some pieces of plastic wrap and insert them between the petals. Then place your flower into a large flower former sitting on a glass (if you don't have a flower former you could use some cardboard or something firm to hold it up)

Shape the petals as per the photos below and allow your peony to dry until ready to be used.



