

## HOW TO MAKE A GUM PASTE ORIENTAL LILY

In this tutorial I will show you how to make a gum paste oriental lily. In this example I had used a teal colour for my petals, however you can use whatever colour you like. White can be a good base colour to use as you can then use dusts to colour to your requirements.

I did a Wilton Advanced Flower Course a number of years ago and this tutorial is based on what I remember from the course and how I do my flowers now.

### ITEMS YOU WILL NEED

- Gum paste – in 2 colours – green for the leaves and a colour of your choice for the lily.
- 2 lily cutters ( narrow and wide)
- Veiner (either a lily veiner that does both flower /leaf or you can use a Wilton Flower Impression mat with a groove on the back – the veiner does not imprint as well on this mat but I really like to use the groove in the back)
- Foam mat
- #26 florist wire – 6 white and 4 green cut into 8-10cm lengths (per lily)
- Green florist tape
- Sugar flower stamens (Wilton #4451 Lily Stamens are good if you can get them)
- Flower former to lay the petals and leaves on (or you could use a container with a slight curve)
- Ball tool
- Veining tool
- Sharp knife
- Soft paint brush
- Edible glue
- Edible dust – a dark green for the leaves and a darker colour of your lily colour to highlight the petals
- Gel colour (same as lily) or edible pen



## STEP 1

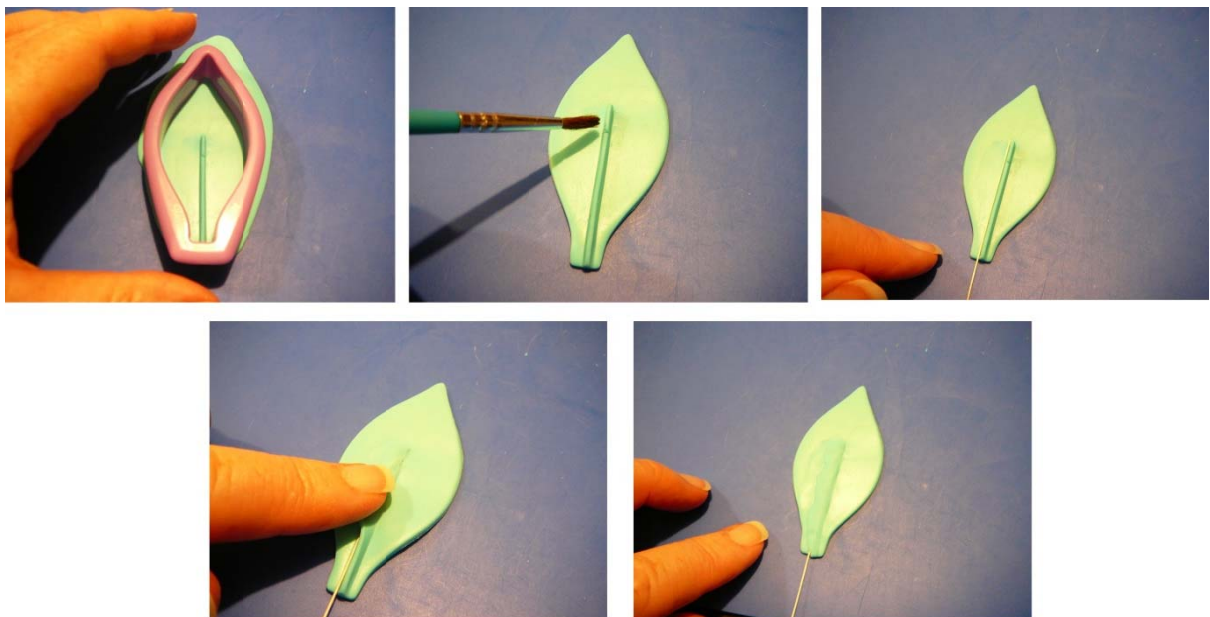
Take approximately 10 grams of the gum paste you are using for your petal. Knead until it is soft and pliable, place on the back of the impression mat over the groove and roll out the gum paste to about 1mm thick.



## STEP 2

Remove the gum paste from the mat and flip over. You will notice there is now a raised groove in the gum paste. Centre your large lily cutter on the gum paste and cut out. Put a very small amount of glue on one side of the groove, place a piece of the white florist wire next to the raised section and gently roll the gum paste over the wire to cover.

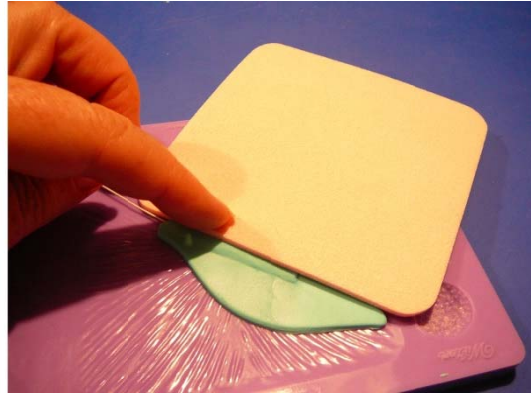
(If you do not have an imprint mat with the groove all you need to do is roll out the gum paste on a non-stick board and cut out your petal. Place a piece of the wire in the centre of the petal and then cut out a thin strip of gum paste and glue this over the wire to secure.)



## STEP 3

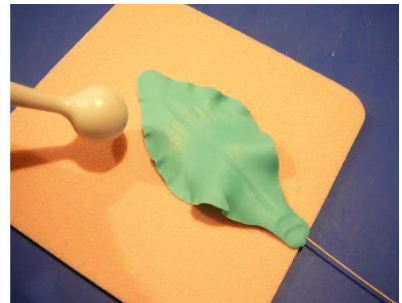
Flip the impression mat over to the other side and place the lily petal face down on the petal impression section as shown below. Using the foam mat gently press both sides of the petal to create an impression.

If you do not have the impression mat then this is the stage that you would use your lily veining tool to imprint the petal impression.



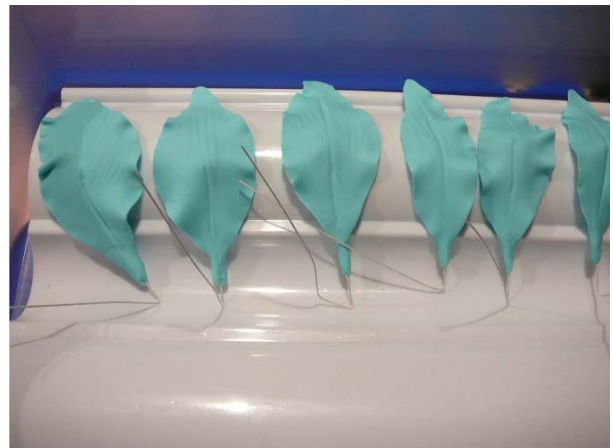
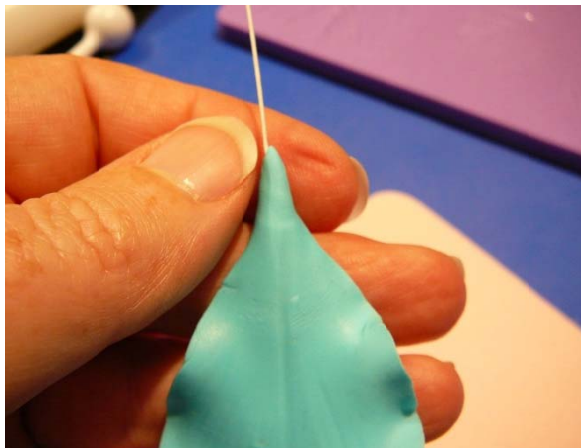
#### STEP 4

Using the thin end of the veining tool, run it down the centre of the petal, drawing a line from the wire to the end of the petal. Using the large ball tool gently run it around the edge of the petal to soften and create a ruffled look.



Pinch the end of the petal around the wire to finish it off. Place on a flower former or plastic container to dry. You will need to allow the petals to dry for at least 1 day before you do the next steps.

You will need to make 3 wide and 3 narrow petals per lily (6 in total).



#### STEP 5

Make 3 leaves by following the exact same steps from 1- 3 above. However use the green gum paste, green florist wire and only use the narrow cutter. When you imprint the leaf use the side of the impression mat that is specifically made for leaves.

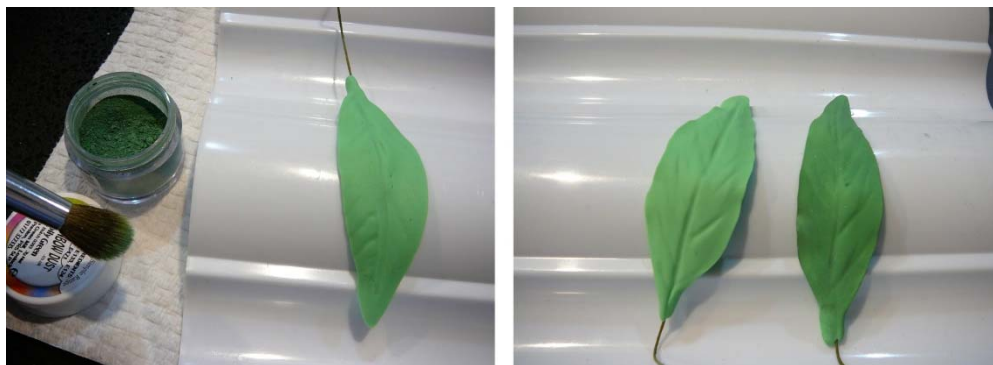
After this the only difference for the next step is that once you have run the centre line down the leaf, use the ball tool to soften the edges of the leaf but do not ruffle them.

Place on a flower former or plastic container to dry. You will need to allow the leaves to dry for at least 1 day before you do the next steps.



## STEP 6

Dust your leaves with the green dust until you are happy with the effect and colour. The picture below shows a before and after shot to show the difference the dust makes. You can make the leaves as dark or light as you like.



## STEP 7

Dust your petals with your chosen dust until you are happy with the effect and colour. Lily's then to have a darker centre so I have dusted mine accordingly. Then using a small amount of gel colour or edible pen, dot the petals with a random pattern through the centre of the petal. Allow to dry.



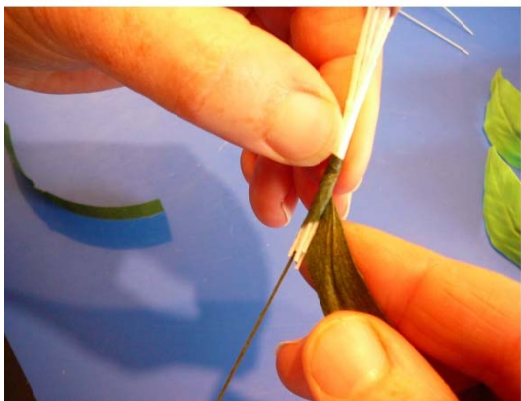
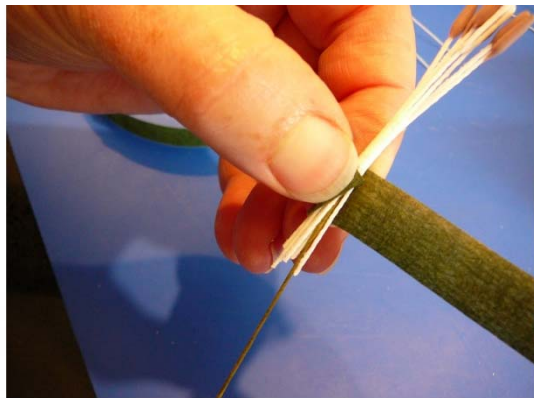
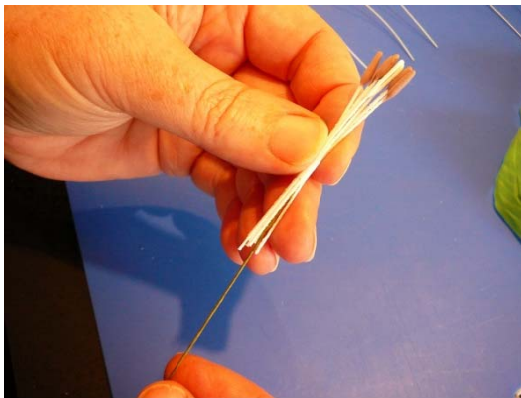
## STEP 8

Time to assemble – a lily will use 3 wide petals, 3 narrow petals, 3 leaves, 1 set of lily stamens, 1 piece of green florist wire and green florist tape. Straighten out all the wires so they no longer have bends in them.



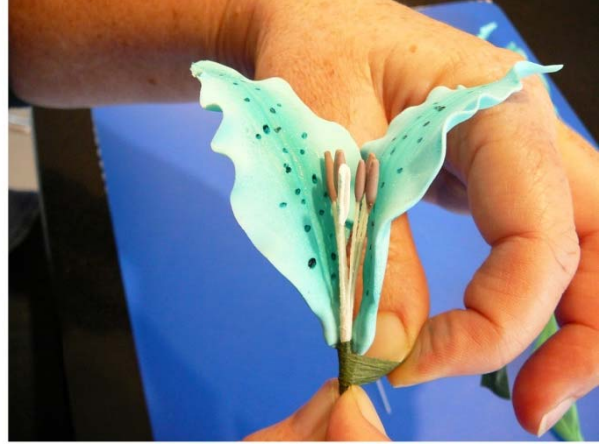
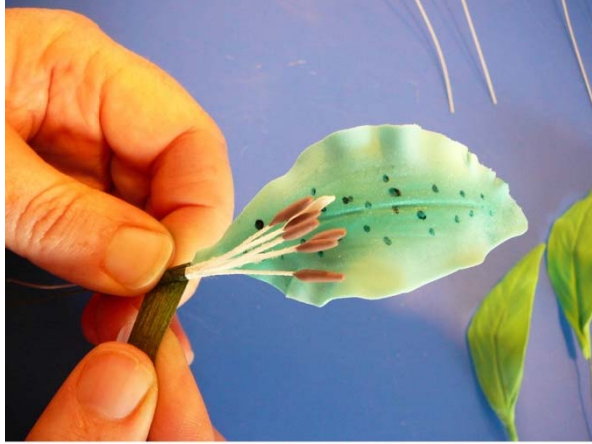
## STEP 9

Take the stamens (do not remove the white wrap that is holding the stamens together), place the green florist wire into the centre and wrap the green florist tape around the base and wire (use a piece about 5 cm long) – florist tape is very stretchy and if pulled tightly will ‘glue’ itself around the wire. Wrap down about 3 cm. Take your knife and gently cut the paper that is wrapped around the stamens – this will enable you to ‘fluff’ them out and make them look more realistic.



## STEP 10

Cut a piece of florist tape about 10cm long. Take a wide petal and using the tape wrap the petal and stamens together a couple of times. Take the 2<sup>nd</sup> wide petal and place it next to the 1<sup>st</sup> petal and then wrap them together. You then take the 3<sup>rd</sup> wide petal and wrap together (your flower will have 3 wide petals in the centre like a triangle). Make sure you wrap each petal individually at least once as this maintains the shape of the flower and helps to keep the petals in place.



Once you have wrapped the 3 wide petals you then wrap the 3 narrow petals – these should be placed between the large petals and down the stem a little so that they fill in the gaps between the large petals.

Refer to photo left below.

Then take the 3 leaves and wrap these below the 3 narrow petals. Once you have joined all the leaves continue to wrap the florist wrap down the stem of the flower to cover all the wires and make it look like an individual stem.



## STEP 11

Gently bend your petals and leaves into place to shape and form the lily.

Store in a dry location (I place mine in glass or plastic cups) until you need to use them.

