



Días de los Muertos

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Paper flowers

Because the selection of flowers is limited at best in November, paper flowers are made to decorate altars, or *ofrendas*, and graves.

You need:

- One package of multi-colored tissue or crêpe paper
- One package of green pipe cleaners
- A pair of scissors

Directions:

1. Layer four or five sheets of tissue paper. For multi-colored flowers, use different colors in the layers. Cut into 8" squares.
2. Keeping the sheets layered, fold one set of squares like an accordion, so it looks like a thin rectangle.
3. At the center of the rectangle, cut a small v-shaped notch on each side.
4. Twist the end of the pipe cleaner around the notch.
5. With the stem pointing straight down, gently pull up one layer of tissue into the center.
6. Pull up the remaining layers one by one.
7. Repeat for the other side of the flower.
8. Fluff the layers in place to look natural. You're all done!

Tips:

- For a sturdier stem, use two pipe cleaners.
- Cut smaller or larger squares to change the size of the blossom.
- Add more layers for thicker flowers.
- For a shiny effect, dip the top edges of the blossom in white glue and then dip into loose glitter.
- Glue a pin on the back of a flower for a lapel decoration.
- Make smaller flowers and string them together as a garland.