

Grandma Barbara's Mother's Day Gardenia

Items needed to create the

Gardenia

Basic flower making equipment:

Flower Pro 3-Piece Blossom Cutter Set

Flower Pro Rose Cone & Thorns

Flower Pro Fan Veiner or

Sunflower/Daisy Mold that includes
the Fan Veiner

Flower Pro Rose Calyx Trio

Flower Pro Multi-Leaf Veiner

Flower Pro Plastic Size Guide,

Companion Tool and FlexiScraper

Sugarin:

NL Flexipaste White & Foliage Green

Sugarin NL Dusting Powders



This is a beautiful, classic and beloved flower that I created for a beautiful woman for Mother's Day. Grandma Barbara is Sidney Galpern's Grandma, but since meeting her a few years ago she has become my adopted Grandma!

Flower

Center

1. Taking a 20 g half-length white wire and half-width white floral tape, go around end of wire 8 times then with tape still attached, hook with pliers then tape over hook 8 more times then continue down wire 1/2"/ 15 mm and break off tape.
2. Take a No. 8 Small ball of NL White FlexiPaste and brush the floral tape bud with FlexiGlue and insert into ball of paste. Mould to basic cone shape then place into the small Flower Pro Rose Cone Mould, rotate to form cone shape and trim off excess paste at the base.
3. Mold wider part of cone into more of a bean shape 3/4" / 20 mm long.
With the needle end of the Flower Pro Companion Tool (aka "Nick Stick") mark top onto 6 sections coming down about 1/3 of the way, mark more deeply and twist to spiral then remark and scratch some fine lines on each section to emulate veining. Let dry.

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Petals

1. Roll out some white FlexiPaste No. 4 on pasta machine and cut out using a NL 70 mm Flower Pro (small size) blossom / rose cutter.
 2. Recut giving 10 petals, cut off 6 petals like slice of cake using mini pallet knife or cutting wheel and put other 4 into Multi Flap.
 3. Place on green firm side of Mini Pad and roll across each petal using shaft of Companion Tool, gently press Fan Veiner onto petals to vein, 3 at a time.
 4. With petals towards you, curl the right hand side of each petal at widest point towards center.
 5. Place on Cosmetic Sponge with hole and brush FlexiGlue half-way up base of dry center, push wire through middle of edge of petals, flip upside down to create cone, mould around to join seam then slide Cosmetic Sponge with hole down wire, turn right side up. Attach 3 alternate petals in a spiral then the 3 remaining petals in between using FlexiGlue as needed. Open out tips of these petals.
 6. Take the remaining 4 petals out of the flap and remove one petal, widen more than previous petals, vein and curl, then with scissors or cutting wheel cut apart into individual petals, brush FlexiGlue half-way up these petals and attach in-between previous 3 petals. Dry upside down for few minutes and then re-shape. Note: This can also be used as a half-open flower with the addition of a calyx. See photograph.
 7. Make a foil sheet former folding into a 5" / 12.5 cm square, mould over half of a 1.5" / 38mm styrene ball, make hole in center using small white stick. Place onto the inside of a roll of floral tape to stabilize. You will need a container to cover the former.
 8. Roll out more paste No. 4 and cut out 2 x 110 mm large blossom shapes, recut as 70 mm cutter and put in flap, cut off 6 petals, place on No-Flip Pad and this time make petals longer and wider using the NL Green Large Stick, vein and curl petals, brush NL E-Z Glue on one edge and form into shallow cone, place into foil former. Align into the center hole and repeat on second petal, but don't lengthen, only widen. Attach with E-Z Glue brushed at base of petals of first stage. Cover with container especially if using traditional flower / gumpaste.
 9. Repeat with 2 x 90 mm blossoms as 110 mm with first one made longer / wider and second one just wider like the larger petals and attach into first stage.
 10. Once completed brush FlexiGlue over base of first stage and thread through the center of the flower, place on top of a drying rack or in a cup with ceramic baking beans / rice, etc. to weigh down while drying, using small pieces of foam as needed.
- Dry for 1-2 hours then remove and hang upside down to fully dry.
11. Take No. 6 small ball of paste and press into the Medium Flower Pro Ovary Mould or use No. 6 Small ball of paste and flattened on top.

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Make a hole using the shaft of the Companion Tool and brush FlexiGlue over flat surface, slide up the wire attaching to back of flower then use shaft of Companion Tool to blend and use a little water to create a seamless finish. Allow to dry a little.

Calyx

1. Tape stem using half-width Light Green Floral Tape $\frac{3}{4}$ of way down wire, repeating on bud.
2. Roll out some Foliage Green FlexiPaste No. 5, cut out using PME Daisy Cutter (1 $\frac{3}{4}$ " / 45 mm) using scissors cut off 3 petals like slice of cake shape and repeat putting extras into Multi-Flap, cut each petal in half and place on green side of Mini Pad and widen slightly.
Place on Cosmetic Sponge and with needle end of Companion Tool work from the tip down to curl calyx.
3. Brush FlexiGlue over solid part of calyx and bottom $\frac{1}{3}$ of calyx.
Wrap around flower $\frac{1}{2}$ " / 10 mm down the stem and form into a cone then slide up the wire to sit on petals.
4. On bud, repeat, just wrapping around base to create cage-like calyx.

Bud

1. Repeat floral tape bud as for flower center and use same process, but hold wire at angle to not get a defined base, roll into a tubular shape at the base leaving cone intact with length of 1.5" / 38 mm.
2. Mark into 6 sections as flower center but coming down about $\frac{3}{4}$ of the way down the cone part.
Spiral and texture as flower center. Let dry.
3. Add calyx as flower.
4. Dust with Pearl Dust, Light Apple and Prairie Green as flower then Apple at the base of calyx.
5. Steam.

Leaves

1. Roll out Foliage Green FlexiPaste No. 4 on pasta machine.
2. Cut using all 3 sizes of blossoms, 70 mm , 90 mm and 110 mm, recut as petals and cut to create individual petals, place into multi-flap.
3. Rub around the top $\frac{2}{3}$ rd edge while it is in the flap with your finger to thin edge slightly.
4. Taking one leaf at a time, dip a $\frac{1}{3}$ length 28 g green or white wire into FlexiGlue and insert half way into leaf, mold at the base to secure wire, taking Flower Pro Multi Leaf Veiner brush or rub a little vegetable shortening / fat onto right hand side of veiner (side with hollow) lay leaf at top with wire in the cavity and bring left hand side over and press on the 2 sides,
5. Remove and place onto the Mini Pad with the raised veins up and soften the edge of the leaf with the

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needle end of Companion Tool.

On small and medium leaf and shaft on large leaf.

6. Hollow base on front of leaf pinching around the needle end of the Companion Tool and pinch to slight “taco” shape. Position on convoluted / crate foam to dry.

7. Once dry, tape the base of each leaf approx. 25mm / 1” down stem.

8. Dust the small leaves Lime Green all over and moss down center on both front and back, on medium and large use Apple Green all over front and back then Moss and stripe front and back and around the edge.

8. Steam and brush or spray with Leaf Glaze or spray lacquer.

Allow to dry before assembly.

Finishing Touches

1. Dust all over flower using NL Super Pearl.

Dust center with very, very pale NL Daffodil Yellow.

2. NL Light Apple at base of flower and NL Prairie Green at the very base around the calyx area.

3. Finally, a Little Apple Green at base of calyx.

Steam to set color.

Assemble into desired spray.

Gardenia by Nicholas Lodge



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***For ordering and information on the NL FlexiPaste & FlexiGlue
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