

Lily

By Kathy Moore

Skill Level 3 (of 4)

Lilies come in an abundance of colours so there is certain to be one to suit your colour scheme. Search the internet for information of varieties and colours, or check out libraries and horticultural outlets.

Lilies are quite large flowers and for the cake decorator, that means filling a lot of cake – a great benefit! A single lily with bud and leaves make a stunning centrepiece on top of a cake.

The ones I have chosen here are mainly white with a hint of pale pink and lime green called 'Versailles'



For leaves see “making leaves using the cut and pinch method” on www.culpitt.com.

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Equipment and Materials			
	✓		✓
Non stick grooved board		Confectioners glaze, brush and cleaner	
Non stick rolling pin		Dusting powders, Spring green, pink & white	
Petal Pad		Culpitt lily cutters	
Dog bone tool		Petal paste, white	
Dresden tool		Stemtex, natural	
White fat (e.g. White Flora)		Florist tape Nile green	
Edible glue and brush		Broad or long linear leaf veiner	
		Culpit lily veiner	
Scissors and wire cutting scissors		Pipe cleaners	
Small fine palette knife.		Flat head tweezers	
18# green florist wires		Dusting powder terracotta or ruby	
24# & 26# white florist wires		Sugarart pen, burgundy.	

Method

Making the pistil

1. Take an 18# gauge wire. Roll a small piece of paste into a ball and attach to top of wire. Work this down the wire to a depth of approximately 5cm. It should be a very thin covering on the wire. Leave the excess at the top of the wire and flatten to make a small saucer shape.
2. Use the flat-headed tweezers to make three pinches.
3. Dip this into glue and then into pollen.
4. Attach a tiny piece of paste about two-thirds down the pistil to form a ridge.
5. Lightly dust the pistil when dry with very pale green. Colour some pollen to a burgundy shade with dusting powder.



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Making the Stamens

You can either make your own stamens or use ready-made stamens as shown in the image.



1. Take a 26# wire and thread a very small piece of white paste onto the wire. Work the paste down the wire to approximately 5cm. It should be very thin and barely cover the wire.
2. Leave the excess at the top of the wire and form a 'bar' across the top. See image.
3. Give a very gentle curve to the stamens and leave to dry.
4. Repeat to make 6 stamens in total.
5. Dip the bar across to top of the stamen into glue and then into the coloured pollen. Leave to dry.
6. Dust a very pale lime green (the colour should be minimal)

Petals

1. On a grooved board, roll out the white petal paste. Leave the paste thicker at the centre. Overall, lilies are not paper thin as roses are so roll out your paste accordingly.
2. Lightly glue the end of a white 24# wire and insert into the groove. It should reach no less than half way up the petal shape.
3. Remove the paste and cut out a petal shape.
4. Vein and transfer to the petal pad to smooth the edges and give shape and movement to the petal. Leave to dry.
5. Make 3 larger petals and 3 smaller ones.



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Colouring

1. Dust the base and partway up each petal pale lime green.
2. Dust the remaining part to the top of the petal pale pink.
3. Add a touch of colour to the very edges of the petals.
4. Dust the back of the petal along the centre a very pale green, graduating the colour to nothing at the tips.
5. Paint fine dots on the three larger petals only. See image.
6. Using a Sugarart edible pen makes this process much simpler.



Making up

1. Using $\frac{1}{4}$ width Nile green tape attach the 6 stamens to the pistil, allowing the pistil to be marginally higher than the stamens. If this is done neatly, it greatly aids the finished result of the flower.
2. Using $\frac{1}{4}$ width Nile green tape, attach three larger petals at equal distance around the pistil/stamens.
3. Then attach the three remaining petals on the outer side as shown.
4. To enhance and set the colour, quickly pass the flower through steam.

Buds

1. Place a piece of paste onto an 18# wire and form a sausage shape.
2. Make 3 deep grooves of equal distance around the bud.
3. Use a knife to make lines around the bud.
4. Colour the bottom part of the bud pale lime green and the upper half a hint of pink. See image.



Leaves

1. For details on making leaves, please see separate article 'Making leaves using the cut and pinch method'
2. Lily leaves are quite simple and can be made using the cutters given for the petals.
3. Make the leaves in different sizes and use a rich green paste.
4. Use the broad or long linear leaf veiner depending on the size of your leaves.
5. Lightly dust the leaves with forest green and steam.
6. Glaze using half strength confectioner's glaze.