

How to Make a Peony Paper Flower: Full and Fluffy



Capturing the timeless beauty of a peony is a rewarding craft project. With just a few simple materials and steps, you can create a gorgeous paper flower that will never wilt.

Materials



- **Crepe paper** in two colors (one for the petals and one for the center)
- **Floral wire** (18-gauge or similar)
- **Floral tape**
- **Scissors**
- **Craft glue**
- **A pen or marker**

Instructions



Step 1: Cut the Petals and Center

Cut your crepe paper against the grain—the direction it stretches—into the following shapes and sizes:

- **Small Petals (5-7 total):** Cut out 5 to 7 petals, each about 1.5 inches wide and 2.5 inches tall. They should be a rounded teardrop shape.
- **Medium Petals (10-12 total):** Cut out 10 to 12 petals, each about 2.5 inches wide and 3.5 inches tall.
- **Large Petals (15-20 total):** Cut out 15 to 20 petals, each about 3.5 inches wide and 4 inches tall.

- **Fringed Center:** Cut a 2-inch wide strip of your contrasting colored paper. Create a fringe by making thin cuts along one side, leaving about 0.5 inches uncut at the bottom.

Step 2: Shape the Petals



Gently stretch each petal with your fingers. Place your thumbs in the center of the petal and stretch the paper outward to create a slight cup shape. This will give your peony a more realistic, curved appearance.

Step 3: Create the Center Bud



Take your fringed crepe paper strip and roll it tightly. Secure the base with a small dot of glue or a piece of floral tape. This will form the center of your flower.

Step 4: Attach the Stem



Take a length of floral wire and bend a small hook at one end. Thread the hook into the center bud and secure it by wrapping the base with floral tape.

Step 5: Assemble the Flower



Now, you'll build the flower by attaching the petals one by one using floral tape.

1. **Small Petals:** Start with your smallest petals. Attach them to the base of the center bud, overlapping each one slightly. Secure them tightly with floral tape, wrapping it around the base of the petals and down the wire.
2. **Medium Petals:** Once all the small petals are attached, move on to the medium ones. Attach them in the same way, staggering their placement between the small petals.
3. **Large Petals:** Finally, add the large petals around the outside of the flower. Overlap them to create a full, lush look. Ensure each petal is securely taped to the base.

Step 6: Finish the Peony



Wrap the entire length of the floral wire with floral tape to create a finished stem. You can also cut a few small leaf shapes from green crepe paper and attach them to the stem.

Tips for Success

- Don't be afraid to experiment with the size and shape of your petals to create a unique flower.
- You can create a more open-looking flower by gently pulling the petals outward.
- The key to a realistic look is in the shaping of the petals. Take your time and be gentle.