

# Flower Lantern

## Pressing Flowers



### Iron Method

Take the petals from the flower. Put the petals between two sheets of greaseproof paper.



Press the top of the greaseproof paper on a low to medium heat for 30 seconds. Check the petals, to see if dry, if not keep repeating the pressing until the petals are dry.

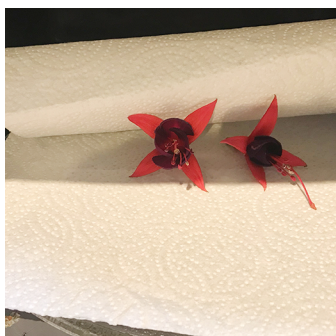


You are aiming for petals that are completely dry. Some flowers turn brown when dried, avoid these ones. You may need a bit of trial and error to work out the best petals to use.



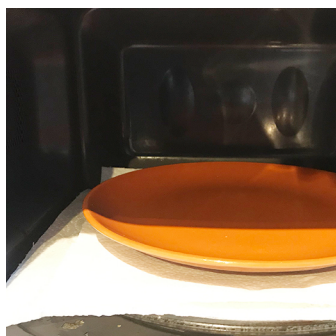
### Book Method

Place the petals inside the coffee filter, then a sheet of paper either side. Then place in a heavy book and leave for 3-4 weeks.



### Microwave Method

Place the petals between two sheets of kitchen towel on the plate of the microwave.



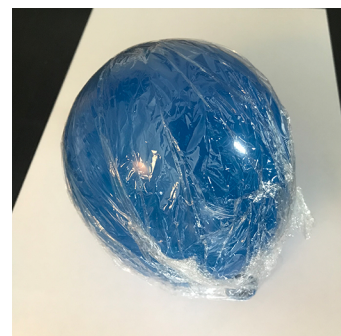
Place a plate on top, and turn the microwave on a low heat for 30 seconds to a minute. Check on the petals and repeat until dry. Beware the plate can get hot.

## Making the Lantern



### Making the Lantern

Mix 3/4 of PVA glue with 1/4 of water in an old pot or jar.



Blow up your balloon to the size you want your lantern to be. Cover the balloon with cling film. Stand the tied end in a jar to make it easier to work on.



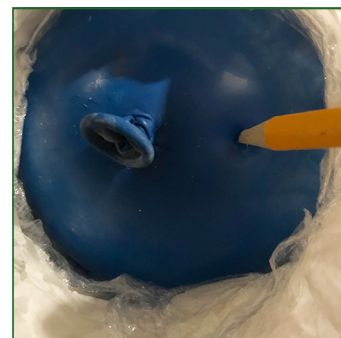
Rip your tissue paper into small pieces. Place on the balloon and then paint the mixed glue over the top. This method helps when using the white tissue paper as it is less likely to rip.



Cover the balloon in three layers of tissue, leaving a gap around the tied end about 10cm circle (see final photo)



Whilst the glue is still wet place the petals into patterns around the balloon. If the petals aren't sticking well use a bit more glue. Cover in 2 more layers of tissue paper. Leave to dry overnight.



This is how the tied end should look, the gap will be the top where the tealight goes in. Use a sharp pencil to pop the balloon and remove the cling film.

**What you will need to make a Flower Lantern...**  
Wet Strength Tissue Paper (doesn't rip when wet) or white tissue paper (can rip easily)  
PVA Glue  
Balloon  
Cling Film  
Flowers  
Paintbrush  
Old pot or jar  
Sharp pencil  
Battery tealight

