

Design Resource

Orchid Flower - Panjim, Goa

Stocking Craft

by

Prof. Bibhudutta Baral and Srikanth B.

NID, Bengaluru

Source:

<https://dsource.in/resource/orchid-flower-panjim-goa>



1. Introduction
2. Tools and Raw Materials
3. Making Process
4. Products
5. Contact Details

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Introduction

Artificial flowers are an imitation of real flowers made by using various types of materials. They enhance the beauty of the place. They are not only durable but also look attractive. Unlike natural flowers, artificial flowers possess superior qualities. They do not look lifeless, not perishable, can reusable. They can be preserved for a longer time. Artificial flower making art is not a modern invention. This art is believed to be a hundred years old. Egyptians, Romans, and Chinese are the few countries where traces of this art can be found. In ancient Egypt, these flowers were made by using non-traditional materials such as thin plates of horn stained with different colours and metals like copper, gold, or silver to give them a luxurious look. Silk flowers were originated in China. Chinese began to raise silkworms to produce soft silk some three thousand years ago. Later they began to use silk to make artificial silk flowers. Only the rich females wore these flowers in the royal palace. These were used to decorate temples in China. The Romans did the same way using wax who attended a degree of perfection. The first Europeans who manufacture artificial flowers are Italians in the twelfth century. They used cocoons of silkworms to make flowers soon after France began making them. The reason behind using silkworms is that they have a velvety appearance and take on a brilliant colour. Later, flowers were made using many materials like ribbons, feathers, satin, muslin, other woven fabrics, etc. Harvard University had owned a remarkable collection of glass flowers.

Nylon Stocking Flower:

Nylon stocking is one of the materials used for making artificial flowers. The art of nylon flower making is easy to learn the craft. This art requires simple tools and inexpensive materials. In the year 1970s, this art gained popularity in the United States and soon became very popular in Japan later in Asia, Europe, and Australia. Nylon stocking flowers require materials like metal wire, nylon stocking, nylon threading, stem wire, floral tape, and stamen. Some flowers require cotton balls or sheets, white glue, acrylic paint, and paintbrushes. These are very easy to make and also give a stunning look once when it is finished. The name to these flowers is given as nylon flowers due to the material used for making them. This stocking material's silky appearance and flexibility help one make any exotic flower easily in minutes. With the help of thin floral wires, the shape of the petals can be designed in any creative way. This nylon wire combination gives these flowers a unique look and feels like a natural flower.

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Orchid flowers are kept in the glass bottle.



Multi-coloured flower bunch kept in the vase.

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Orchid flower making artist Ms. Deepa.

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Tools and Raw Materials

The tools and raw materials that are used for Orchid Flowers are as follows:

- **Plastic Cylindrical Tube:** It is used for the floral stem wire to roll over the tubes for the shape of petal or leaf.
- **Nylon Stocking Cloth:** It is used as a basic material in the making of an orchid flower.
- **Floral Stem Wire:** It is used as a stem of the flower.
- **Floral Green Tape:** It is used to wrap the stem wire to give a natural look of the stem.
- **Scissors:** It is used to cut the extra cloth while stocking.
- **Pliers:** It is used to trim the extra stem wire.
- **Nylon Thread or Sewing Thread:** It is used to tie the cloth after stocking.
- **Ready-made Stamens:** It is used to keep at the center of the flower.
- **Cotton:** It is used to make a bud on the flower.



Stocking cloth used in flower making.



Floral tape as used in stem making.

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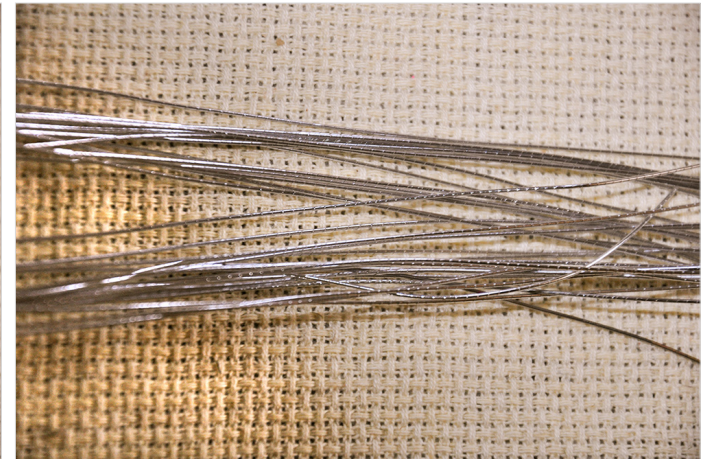
The stamens are used to keep at the centre of the flower.



The thread is used in tying the flower in shape.



A plastic pipe tube is used to shape the wire.



The petal rings are made using a metal wire.

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Plier is used for cutting the metal wire.



The scissor is used in cutting the cloth.

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Making Process

A plastic cylindrical tube is taken to roll the metal wire over it to form a loop depending on the size of the flower, which makes a petal shape. Plier is used to twisting the wire gently and cut the loose end. Four more wire loops of the same size are made with the help of a cylindrical tube. Bright colour attractive nylon cloth is wrapped around the loop. It is stretched and tied towards the end with the help of a sewing thread of similar colour. Care should be taken while stretching and pulling the nylon that it should not get a tear. The extra nylon at the end is trimmed that is the procedure of making petals. Near about five to six petals are made for making one flower. The same procedure is followed to make multiple petals or leaves. Stamens are threaded on the stem with the chosen colour. This makes the bud of a flower. Ready-made stamens are also available to fix at the center of the flower.

After that artisan takes one petal and ties it with the bud and stamen tightly by using a thread, all petals are attached to form the shape of a flower. The wire left below the flower is wrapped by green tape, and green leaves are added in between the stem. The orchid flower is completed and looks so irresistible.

1. A cylindrical tube is used for giving a floral petal and stem shape to the wire.

2. Nylon cloth of bright colour is wrapped around the wire loop.

3. Nylon cloth is pulled and tied at the loop end and tied with thread which forms a petal shape.

4. Leaves are also made using the same process.

5. A flower bud is made by wrapping some cotton in nylon cloth.

6. Ready-made stamens and bud are fixed at the center of the flower, and petals are attached around them to give flower shape.

7. A wire left below is covered with green tape, and leaves are attached in between to make the stem of a flower.



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The artist is giving shape to the wire for making petals.



The stocking cloth is wrapped around the wire ring to make petals.



The artisan is cutting the white cloth to make the flower bud, attached with wire and floral tape.



The artisan is attaching the stamens, bud, petals with the thread for making the orchid flower.

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The floral tape is wrapped on the attached wire to give the stem look.



More petals are attached to make the orchid flower shape.



The handmade orchid flower.

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Some more buds are attached to the stem to make the flower bunch.

Finally, the leaves are attached to the stem.



Beautiful orchid flower bunch.

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Products

Ms. Deepa, an artist from Panjim, Goa, makes the nylon stocking flowers. Along with this art, she crafted new products like wall hangings, ceramic sculptures, contemporary clay arts, and home decoration products in her art studio. The required raw material is ordered from Mumbai. Beautiful flowers made by her adorn the beauty of the house. The price ranges from 50 INR to 300 INR. The minimum size of an orchid stocking flower is around 3x6 inches, and the maximum size of the flower is around 5x15 inches.



The Orchid flower bunch kept in the crafted glass bottle.



A blue colour flower bunch made with stocking cloth.

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The rose flowers are made in the stocking cloth.



Pink colour stocking flowers.

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Contact Details

This documentation was done by Prof. Bibhudutta Baral and Srikanth B. at **NID, Bengaluru**.

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