

WORK PROJECT

LILY OF THE VALLEY

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MATERIALS AND TOOLS:

Fimo - green, white, brown, transparent

Small pots — 3/8" high x 5/8" or 1/2" wide filled with clay or "oasis" foam (used for dried flower arrangements).

5 to 7 pieces of #30 (thinnest) florist wire painted green, 3/4" to 1" long

Tweezers

Pie Plate

Blunt end needle (tapestry)

Instant Glue

LEAVES: Knead and blend together 3 parts green Fimo; 1 part transparent and 1/8 part brown. Make a 1/8" diameter ball of well blended leaf mix and roll out a snake 3/8" to 1/2" long. Moisten thumb and forefinger and pinch flat making "snake" shape now 1/2" to 5/8" long and leaf shaped. Lightly mark ribs lengthwise with tapestry needle, then gently bend leaf to a V at center rib. Curve a few backwards slightly, some straight and some with almost no V. Roll bottom 1/8" of leaf to make its stem. Place in ungreased pie plate to bake at 275° to 300° for approximately 10 minutes.



Blunt end needle makes indentation to hollow out ball into a little cup.



Top view enlarged. Stem and 3 leaves.

ASSEMBLING THE FLOWERS: Curve wires at one end. With tweezers pick up one little 1/32" ball and glue to tip of wire stem (an unopened flower). Then, spacing the flowers about 1/32" to 1/16" apart, add more flowers graduating sizes from smallest (closed flower) to largest (open cups). Use 5-7 flowers, stopping at mid stem. Set aside to dry. Assemble remaining stems.

Lily of the Valley grow leaf inside of leaf, with the flower stem in the center. The little plants (pips) grow very close together. When assembling the little plants in a pot or in your garden, be sure each flower stem has 2 or 3 leaves "growing" up from where it enters the soil and crowd the plants together.

Drawing shows assembly of one plant-flower stem plus three leaves. The little pot should have 3 to 5 such plants.



Assembled Plants.