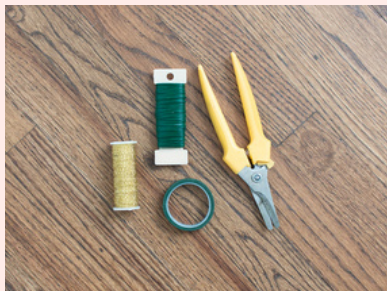


# How to Make a Flower Crown

You'll likely want the flower crown to be one of the last things you make to keep it as fresh as possible. Save this for the afternoon or evening of day 3 (the day before the wedding).



## Gather Supplies & Flowers

For a flower crown, you will need: snips, 24 gauge wire, gold or silver bullion wire, stem tape, greens, and small flowers.



## Prep Greenery and flowers

You need tiny items for a flower crown. Go ahead and prep all of your small stems so you do not have to stop and cut so much through the process.

You'll mostly use small blooms like spray roses and mini carnations. Cut these away from the main stem but leave as much stem as possible.

Cut small sprigs of greenery. Pull off the lower leaves so you have a clean stem to work with.



## Measure your head

Measure your head (or the flower girl's head) using the 24 gauge wire. Wrap the wire around your head and hold the ends where they meet. Double the length of the wire and cut.

Use your finger to create a hook in the wire. Twist the wire together (like a 2 strand braid). This provides extra support and the loop allows for an easily adjustable crown. It is easiest to put the loop around a friend's finger while you twist the wires together.



## Add Stem Tape

Stem Tape is the same kind of tape you will use for boutonnieres. It needs to be stretched to activate the glue. Then it will stick to itself.

This will add extra support to the wire. It will provide a better texture for the greenery to stay in place rather than attaching directly to the smooth wire. Either cut a long piece of tape or start with it on the roll. If your cut piece is too short you can always add another piece.



## Continue Wrapping

Stretch the first section of tape and start wrapping it around the wire right under the loop. Again, you may want to have a friend hold the other end of the tape while you wrap. However, I do find this part fairly easy to do on my own.

Continue to stretch sections of the tape as you go. If you hold the both tape and wire tight it should stretch out on it's own. Add the tape all the way to the end to cover the pointy wire.



## Create A Full Loop

Once you have covered the wire, bend the other end (without the loop) to make a hook.

Create a circle with the full wire. Make sure it still fits your head. If it is too big bend the hook end to make it smaller.

If it is too small add an extra section of wire or tie a pretty ribbon to both ends of the wire to give more wiggle room.

# How to Make a Flower Crown

If you wait until day 3 to make the crown that gives you time to save little scraps of greenery and flowers that you cut from other arrangements. Save these in a small glass of water or in a zip lock bag with a damp paper towel.



## Start with Greenery

Use the gold bullion wire to attach the greenery and flowers. The bullion wire is thin and wavy, making it easier to use than the smooth green floral wire. Use a mix of small bits of greenery.

If you have Italian Ruscus these long stems can be wired as-is to the wire base. For other types of greenery, use small sprigs with clean stems. Wrap the bullion wire around the stem. For more support you can wrap the wire through the leaves.



## Add Texture with greenery

If you are going to use small texture items like baby's breath, wax flower, or Limonium, go ahead and add these with your greenery. Make small clusters (kind of like boutonnieres) so you don't have to wire every small piece individually. Depending on your style you can skip the greenery and just make a base of baby's breath. For greenery, stick to small leaves and flexible stems like leatherleaf, gunni euc, nagi, and silver queen pitt. Stay away from large leaves or stiff stems like silver dollar or baby euc.



## Add Small Flowers

Create little bunches (or boutonnieres) of flowers. Wire them on with the bullion wire. You can use one long piece of wire to wrap continuously or you can cut short pieces to wire each bunch individually. Add extra wire as needed to make sure the flowers are secure.

If you have long stems poking it it's alright to cut them shorter. Just be careful not to cut the wire or cut the stems so short that they don't stay in the wire.



## You Can Stop Here

If you just want small blooms for a delicate look then you can stop here.

If you are making this for a flower girl you will likely only want to use small blooms because she is so small.

Extra Tip: A flower crown can also be used as a dog collar if you don't think the blooms will irritate your pup.



## Add Large Blooms

If you want a more elaborate crown or more of a boho look then you can add larger blooms.

You can add hardy large blooms like standard roses, carnations, garden roses, or even ranunculus. Some of these blooms will likely be fine with just the bullion wire. However, the thicker stems of standard roses likely need more support. For these, use the 24 gauge floral wire.



## Secure With Wire

Poke the floral wire through the wide part at the top of the stem. (If you can't poke the wire through on its own then use a bout pin to poke a hole first.) Center the wire through the stem so you have a long piece on each side. Fold the wire down and wrap the ends once or twice around the stem. Next, use the same wire to attach the stem to the crown. Wrap this wire around both the stem and the crown a few times. Add extra wire for support if needed.

# How to Make a Flower Crown

Talk to your hair stylist ahead of time if you are wearing a flower crown. Some up-dos might keep the crown from sitting properly on your head.



## Make Adjustments

Since everything is wired fairly tight it will be difficult to move things, but you should be able to easily add.

If you see any gaps, add flowers and/or greenery until you are happy with the look.

Put the crown on your head to make sure the flowers sit how you like them. My personal taste for large blooms is to keep them on one side of the crown.

Carefully cut any stems that are too long.



## Store and Hydrate

If this crown is for a flower girl, you likely won't be too concerned about it holding up so it can be made on day 2 if stored properly.

However, a bridal crown is going to be just as photographed as the bouquet so wait as close to the wedding as possible to make it.

To store the crown use what we call a "hydration chamber". Place a damp paper towel in a container, add the crown, and place another damp paper towel on top. Seal the container with the lid then put it in the fridge (fridge on warmest setting).



## All Done!

On the wedding day don't forget to get the flower crown out of the fridge!

Don't forget the crown is adjustable so you can bend it to fit your head if needed.

Be sure to bring bobby pins to keep the crown in place. It may stay in place on its own when standing still, but it might need extra security for the dance floor.