

CHRISTMAS SPARKLE

French Tulips and Paper Whites:

Make delicate flowers for your Christmas arrangement.

Chef Nicholas Lodge

French Tulips

Flowers (3): Taking a half length 20 gauge wire, make a floral tape bud using half width light green floral tape, wrap around end of the wire 10 times and make a hook using pliers. Wrap around another 10 times, add two extra half length 20 gauge wires and tape down to end of wires.

Take a no.10 small ball of white paste, brush the floral tape bud with glue, insert into the ball, mould at base and make in basic cone. Rotate in the medium cone cavity in the Flower Pro Rose Cones Mould, trim off excess paste and leave to dry.

Take six no.6 large size balls (one quarter below and three quarters above the Size Guide) of white paste and roll into a sausage two-thirds the length of the cymbidium straight petal in the Flower Pro Ultimate Orchids Mould. Brush a little vegetable shortening / fat pressing in to the cavity using cosmetic sponge then press the Peony back veiner on the back.

Remove from the mould, soften the top half using a large ball tool, place onto a cosmetic sponge and vein the top half with the needle end of the Companion Tool. Pinch to a slight point and cup using a large ball tool. Place under a pot and repeat with two more petals then lay on a pad and brush glue on the bottom half edges and down the centre half way up the petal.

Attach one petal, then attach the second by tucking it inside the first petal, then repeat with the third petal. Repeat with the next three – these are attached half way up the petal making closed, slightly open and more open stages. Leave to dry.

Finishing touches: Measure down the wire from the base of the flower:

Tight bud – 12.5cm

Mid size – 10.5cm

Open – 9.5cm

Mark the stem with a pen. Roll a no.12 small size ball of foliage green paste into a 13cm sausage, widen 30mm and roll through a pasta machine on setting number three.



Change out to the fettuccine attachment, or use a Jem strip no.3, herb cutter or cut freehand to 5mm wide. Store in the Stay Fresh Folder.

Turn over, brush glue and wrap around like a candy cane. Roll on an elevated pad using the Flexi Scraper, trim the top, use wet finger to smooth as needed and leave to dry.

Dust all over the white paste with a 1:1 mix of white and Super Pearl dust.

Dust Light Apple on stripe at base of petal a quarter of the way up. Dust a 1:1 mix of Light Apple and Apple Green lightly on the petal tips, then Apple Green at the very base where the flower and stem meet.

Assemble at base of stem covering using half with light green floral tape, mid size and open French tulip as shown, then steam.

Paper whites

Flowers (3): Take a half length 22 gauge wire and three yellow violet stamens or round stamens, tape on to the end of the wire using quarter width light green tape, wrapping around five times then continue half way down the wire. Open up stamens and dust with Daffodil yellow.



Brush with confectioners glaze and dip into yellow pollen (for ADC use glue or clear nail polish and yellow sand).

Throat: Take a no.5 size ball of paste, brush a little vegetable fat / shortening into the lily-of-the-valley cavity in the Flower Pro Ultimate Filler Flowers Mould.

Press a sausage of paste into the mould, roll across the top with the shaft of the Companion Tool and carefully remove from mould.

Place the no.7 hole on Size Guide on top of the hat and cut around using the companion tool. Place on the firm side of a pad and on the back frill all around the edge using the needle end of the Companion Tool.

Hollow the centre with the ball end of the Companion Tool then a medium ball tool (no.4 ball size).

Frill the front edge too, brush glue at the base of the floral tape centre and thread into centre. Mould to form base and leave to dry

Back petals: Take a no.6 large size ball of paste (one quarter below and three quarters above the Size Guide) and press into three of the petals on the pointed petal cavity in the Flower Pro Blossoms Mould using a cosmetic sponge then the Flexi Scraper. Remove and trim, and make a small cut between the petals to separate slightly.

Place smooth side up on the soft side of a pad and stretch petals to 20mm from centre to tip.

Smooth the edge with a Dresden tool, press the Fan Veiner onto the petals, two then one (like the dahlia),

turn over onto a cosmetic sponge and vein from the centre to the outside on each petal. Pinch to a point, brush glue at the petal base, form into a cone shape and then slide up to meet throat. Repeat on second petals positioning in between the first row.

Place onto a crate foam former (cut up square) or small cel former using a paperclip or place on top of a drying rack.

Buds (2): Take a half length 24 gauge wire, using half width light green floral tape make a floral tape bud by wrapping around wire five times. Make a hook and tape five more times and continue down the wire.

Taking a no.6 small ball, roll into a 15mm ($\frac{5}{8}$ inch) sausage, press the needle tool and then the ball tool end of the Companion Tool into sausage, place into the hyacinth / bluebell cavity in the Flower Pro Ultimate Filler Flowers Mould and brush glue on the floral tape bud, insert and press into mould.

Remove and mark 6 lines using the needle tool end of the companion tool half way down the bud, stretch down to make slender back and trim off excess paste at 20mm ($\frac{3}{4}$ inch) length. Leave to dry.

Finishing touches: On buds and flowers using half width light green tape, tape down 25mm (1 inch) and up, then break off the tape. Use a no.4 size ball of white paste, roll into a short sausage, make a hole through the centre and brush glue 10mm down the stem. Slide up to the base of the flower and stretch down to give a tubular back 10mm long. Trim as needed. For ADC and FlexiPaste use a wet finger to smooth the seam.

Slide a no.3 small size ball of foliage green up the wire in same way. Attach to tube in oval shape, leave to dry.

Dust all over the white paste with a 1:1 mix of white and Super Pearl dust.

Dust Light Apple in the centre of the flowers. Dust a 1:1 mix of Light Apple and Apple Green inside petal base and where the ovary meets the white paste and lightly on the tip.

Bend 5mm down the wire and assemble onto a half length 20 gauge wire then tape down.

Cut a 35mm section of full width white floral tape to shape bud then dust bottom two-thirds a 1:1 mix of Light Apple and Apple Green and Pale Chocolate (Chocolate mixed with cornflour / cornstarch) over

the top half. Score a line down the centre using companion tool or cookie scribe, wrap around the stem creating the papery looking calyx.



Cover stem as tulips 11cm but open up spiral more as shown on the video. Dust the base of the flower cluster Apple Green. Steam flower cluster and calyx area.

Colour guide



Price guide

Tulips \$6.00 each (x3)
TOTAL: \$18.00 (UK £13.00)

Paper white \$6.00 each (x3)
 Buds \$3.00 each (x2)
TOTAL: \$24.00 (UK £17.50)