

Yaqui Paper Flowers

Have you ever daydreamed about a favorite place where everything is perfect? The Yaqui people believe in an enchanted world called the "Flower World". It is like the desert near Tucson, but it is always filled with animals and beautiful flowers.

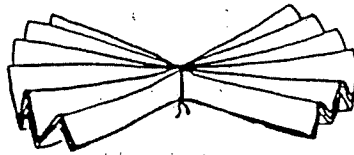
Flowers are a very important part of any Yaqui celebration. They remind people of the beauty of the Flower World. Following are directions for making paper flowers, so you can decorate your home with a Yaqui tradition.

Making Paper Flowers:

Supplies: various colors of tissue paper (size 8 1/2 x 11"), pipe cleaners, string and scissors.

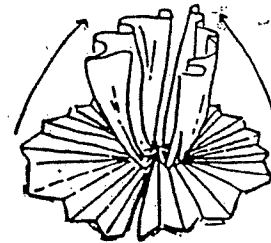
First Step: Place 4 to 6 pieces of tissue paper on top of each other (green piece on bottom).

Second Step: Fold the pile accordion style, like you were making a paper fan.



Third Step: Tie a piece of string firmly but gently in the center of the folded paper.

Optional: Cut patterns along the ends of the paper to make fancy petals.



Fourth Step: Gently spread out the paper so it looks like a fan.

Fifth Step: Lift tissue paper, one piece at a time, toward the center and "scrunch". Continue until all of the pieces are bunched together.

Sixth Step: Hook pipe cleaner through string to create a stem for your flower.

