

Duct Tape Flowers

A duct tape bouquet lasts longer than cut flowers—and still brightens your day! Duct tape isn't just a way to patch up leaky pipes; it's a trendy craft material, too. Celebrate spring by making a bouquet of duct tape flowers, great as a gift or as a pretend-play prop for younger kids.

What You Need:

- Colorful rolls of duct tape (red, yellow, blue, green)
- Scissors
- Ruler
- Pencil

What You Do:

1. Have your child roll the strip from the left to right. She'll roll in a slight spiral shape so that the innermost part of the rose is highest, with the rose's circle broadening outwards and downwards. □
2. Cut a piece of red tape ($\frac{1}{4}$ inch wide x 4 inches long) to wrap around the flower's base.
3. To make a stem, cut a 7-inch length of green duct tape. Have your child place the rose flower inside the top sticky edge of the green tape. She'll roll the green strip around the flower top, with the sticky side holding everything together while rolled, becoming a long stem.
4. To make a lotus flower, have your child cut two 10-inch long strips of duct tape. Have her press the strips with sticky sides together. On this piece of 2-sided duct tape, she'll use a pencil to draw six petal shapes. □
5. Next she can cut out the petals. With remaining tape, she'll cut a rectangle (3 inches x 2.5 inches). Roll the rectangle into a cylinder and pinch one end shut. □
6. Wrap a small piece of duct tape around that end. From the other end, have your child cut slits of about $\frac{1}{2}$ inch length, about $\frac{1}{8}$ of an inch apart all around. Cut another piece of tape 4 inches long. Have her place the cylinder (pinched side down) in the center, and then arrange the petals around it on the tape's sticky side. Fold up the sticky tape beneath everything. □
7. Repeat step #4 to make a stem.
8. To make a daisy, cut two 13-inch pieces of tape and stick together. Have your child draw and then cut out 12 long, thin petal shapes in a 4 x 4 pattern across the tape. □
9. Have her cut two 2-inch diameter circle from two pieces of yellow duct tape.
10. She can arrange petals around the sticky ends of one circle, then overlay the other sticky circle on top to hold petals in place.
11. Create a stem (step #4) and attach it behind the flower's circle with a small piece of duct tape.

