

# Balloon & Felt Flower Bouquets

These can be used for a buffet table decoration or placed throughout the room, depending on how many you want to make. The instructions below will make 3 balloon and felt flower bouquets.

*Tip: Create your flowers well ahead of time, but don't fill the balloons until the day of the party for best potency of helium. And if you find your felt flowers are too heavy for the helium-filled balloons, you can hang them from the ceiling with fishing line.*

**Crafter level:** Intermediate

**Time needed:** About 1 hour

## What you'll need

- Flower templates
- 3, 36-in. latex balloons filled with helium
- Balloon weights (optional)
- 4½ to 5 yd. tulle, 54 to 60 in. wide
- Felt squares, in colors of your choice
- Green felt squares (for leaves)
- Rubber bands
- Low-temp hot glue gun and glue sticks
- Sharp scissors
- Pin backs (optional)
- 3 to 4 yd. ribbon in width of your choice
- Clear thread or fishing line\*



## How to make it

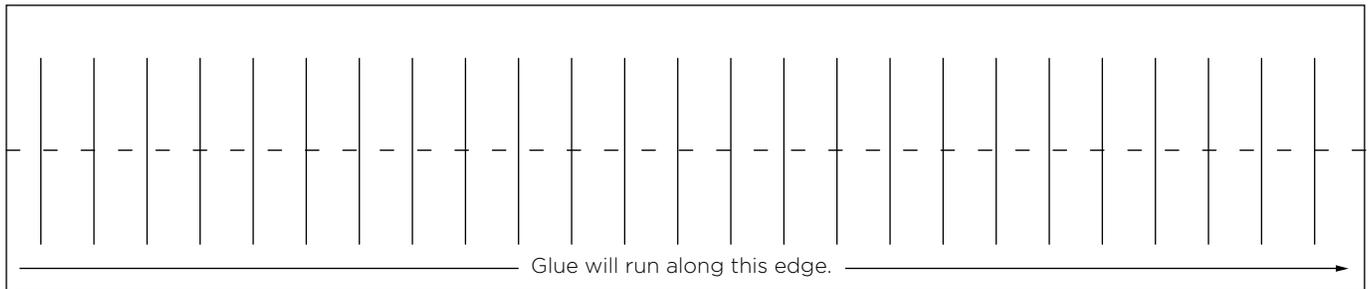
1. Make 2 to 3 felt flowers per balloon according to each flower's instructions. Add pin backs to the flowers with a hot glue gun so you can reuse them another time (optional).
2. Cut tulle into 1½-yard pieces, and then wrap each piece of tulle around each filled balloon. Secure tulle at base of balloons with rubber bands. Tie ribbon around the rubber bands and tie the balloon weights to the other end of the ribbon (optional).
3. Pin or glue flowers onto the excess tulle under the tied ribbons, being careful not to pop the balloon as you add the flowers.
4. Place your pretty balloons around the room.

*\*Note: Try this if your balloons aren't staying afloat with the addition of the flowers, ribbon and tulle, or if you want to make these balloons well ahead of time: Snip 2 tiny slits in the tulle at the top of the balloon and slide a long piece of clear thread through the slits. Then hang the balloons from the ceiling.*



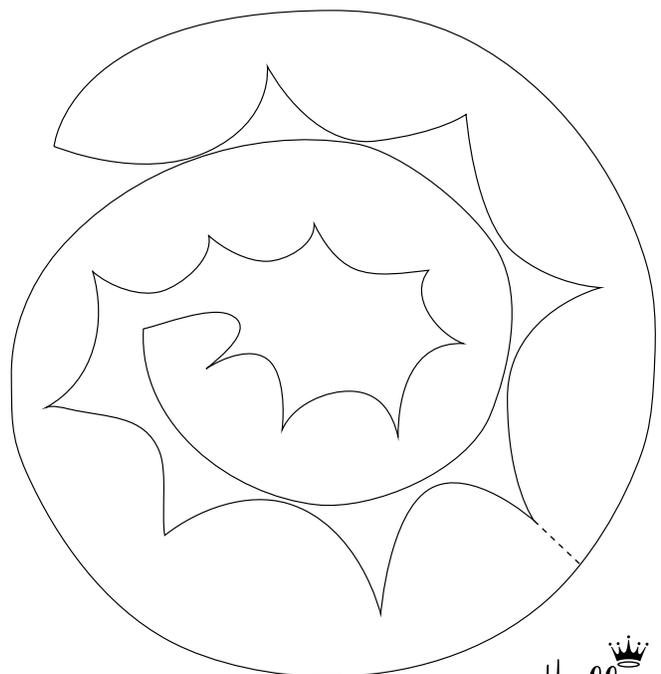
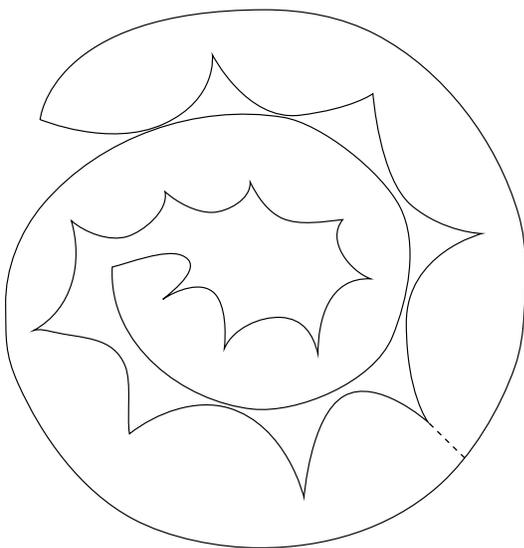
# Chrysanthemums

1. Using provided templates, cut out felt pieces.  
*Tip: For bigger flowers just make length longer, and then when you roll up the flower it will get larger.*
2. Run a bead of hot glue down the long side, fold in half (where indicated by dotted line), and press together.
3. Cut slits, approximately ¼-inch apart, into the felt, but be careful not to cut all the way down to where the glue is.
4. Run another bead of hot glue along the bottom edge and roll flower closed.



# Roses

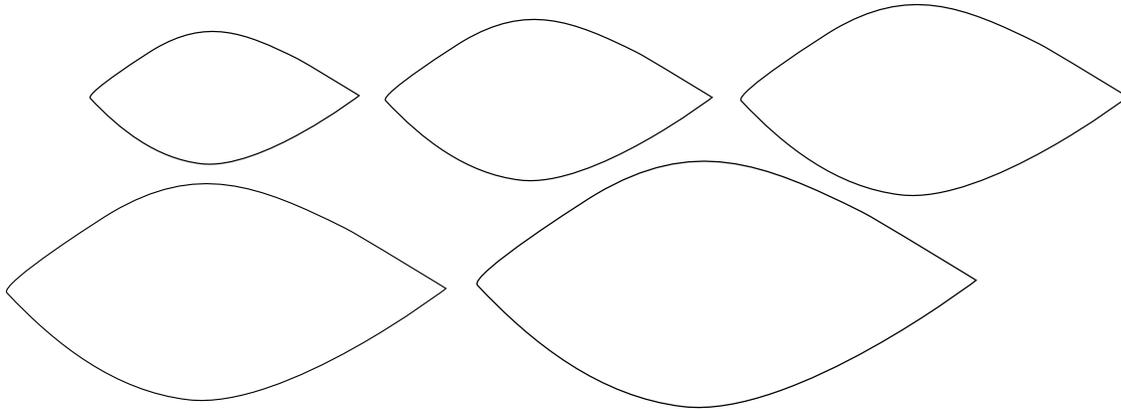
1. Using provided templates, cut out felt pieces. Two sizes are provided so you can add variety to your project. For fuller roses, cut additional petals using the section of the templates below indicated with a dotted line.
2. Start at the center and run small drops of hot glue around the straight edge, roll tightly and hold for a few seconds while the glue dries.





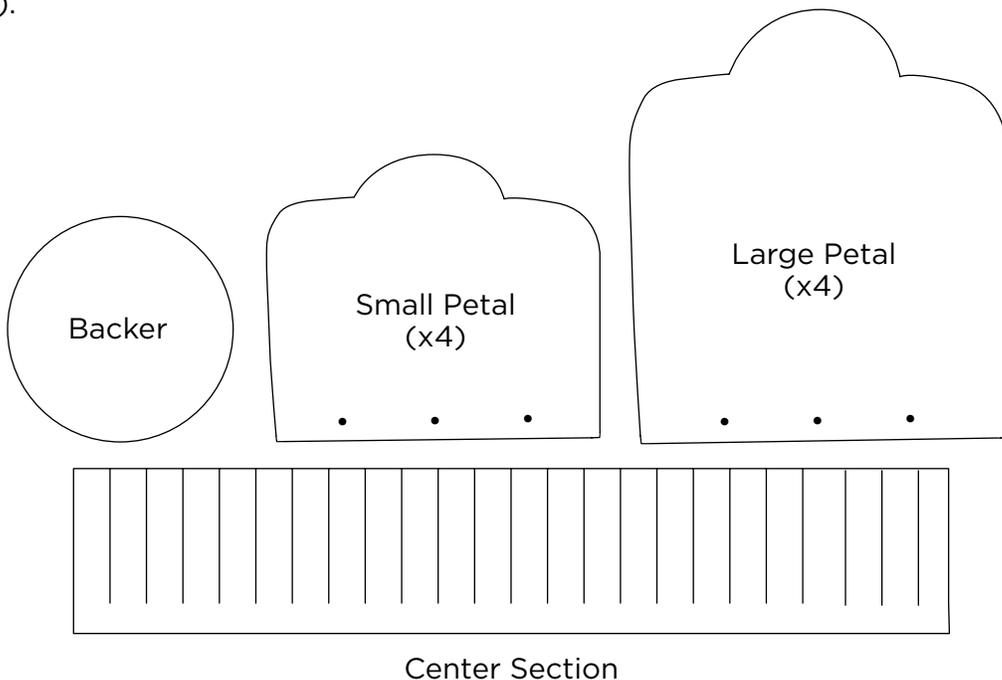
# Leaves

1. These leaf shapes can be added around your flowers to fill in areas and add a special touch.



# Hibiscus

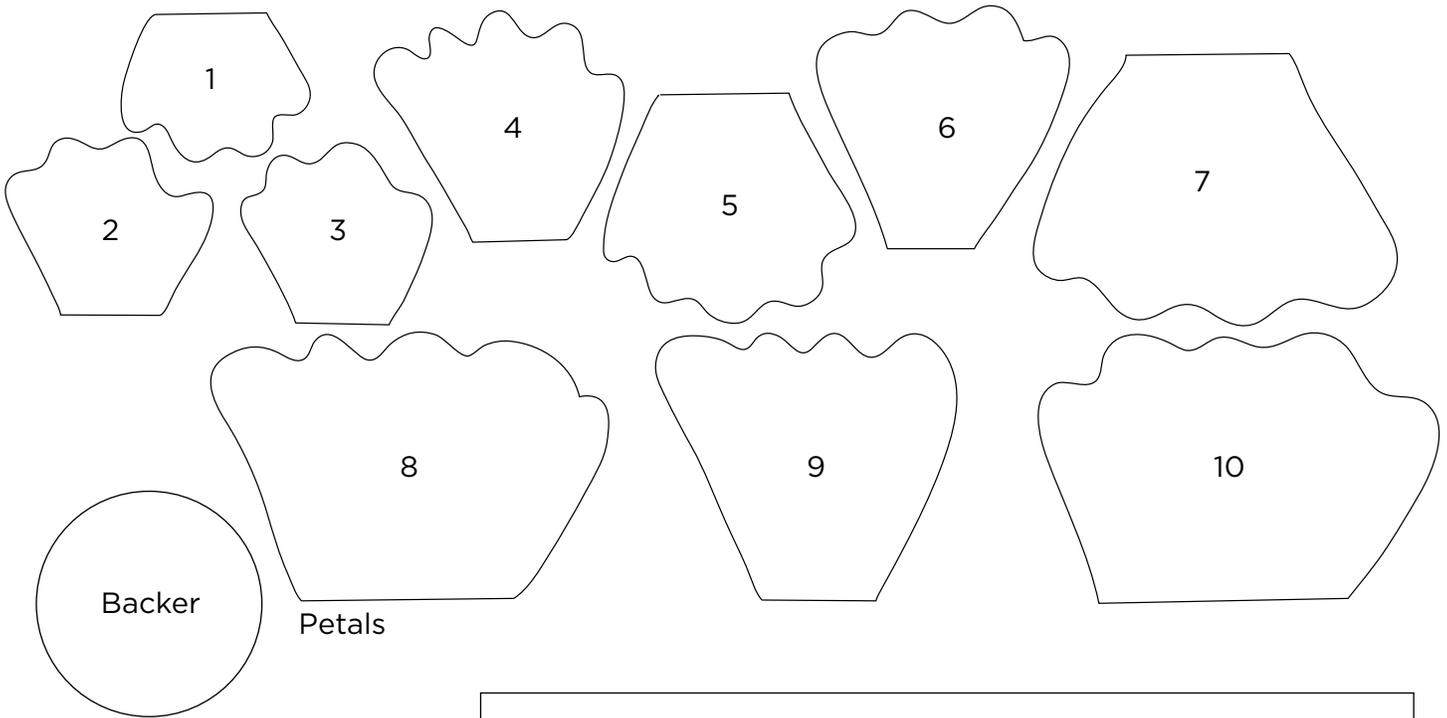
1. Using provided templates, cut out 4 each of the small petals and large petals, 1 backer circle, and 1 rectangle for center section.
2. For the center section rectangle, cut slits into 1 side, about ¼-inch apart, but be careful not to cut all the way down through. Run a bead of hot glue along the bottom, uncut edge about an inch at a time, and carefully roll closed. Angle cut the top of the fringe if desired.
3. On all the petals, add a small dot of glue to the center base of each petal and pinch closed. Then, add 2 more dots of glue between the center pucker and the outside edges (1 on each side) and pinch closed. Begin glueing the puckered bottoms of the 4 small petals to sides of the center section (now a cylinder). Attach the 4 large petals in the same manner behind and between the small petals.
4. Attach 1 or 2 leaves to the base of the flower, behind the petals. Then glue the backer circle to the bottom of the cylinder and 4 large petals to give your flower a flat area to attach a pin back (optional).





# Anemone

1. Using provided templates, cut out felt pieces: 1 each of 10 petals, 1 backer circle, and 1 rectangle for center section.
2. For the center section rectangle, run a bead of hot glue down the long side. Fold it in half (indicated by the dotted line), and press together. Cut slits into the fold about 1/4-inch apart, but be careful not to cut all the way down to the glue. Run another bead of hot glue along the bottom edge and roll closed.
3. Begin glueing the first few petals to the center section (now a cylinder) in an overlapping pattern, beginning with Petal 1. Match the straight sides of the petals to the bottom, flat side of the cylinder. Add the remaining petals in the same manner until all 10 petals are attached.
4. Attach 1 or 2 leaves to the base of the flower, behind the petals. Then glue the backer circle to the bottom of the cylinder and attached petals to give your flower a flat area to attach a pin back (optional).



Center Section

