



Australian Government

Department of Veterans' Affairs



Anzac Day

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Lest We Forget.

MAKING A PAPER POPPY

There are lots of ways to make commemorative paper poppies. Here is one way.

What you'll need

- Thin cardboard
- Red crepe paper
- Green pipe cleaner
- Black paper
- Scissors
- Pencil or fine pen
- Glue

What to do

1. Use scissors to cut out a poppy shape on cardboard to make a template (see our diagram overleaf).
2. Place the petal template on red crepe paper and trace around it with a pencil or pen.
3. Cut out the poppy shape with scissors.
4. To make the stalk, take a pipe cleaner and bend the end over twice at 1cm lengths (see our diagram).
5. Push the straight end of the pipe cleaner through the middle of the petal shape; continue to push until the bent end sits in the middle of the poppy.
6. Cut a small circle out of the black paper and glue it onto the centre of the poppy; it will secure the pipe cleaner to the crepe paper.
7. Bend and shape the petals of the poppy.

POPPIES AS SYMBOL OF REMEMBRANCE

During the First World War, red poppies were among the first plants that sprouted on the battlefields of Belgium and northern France.

The poppy's popularity stems from a poem written by Canadian medic, Lieutenant-Colonel John McCrae, in 1915. The poem recalls the red poppies on the war graves of soldiers who died on the Western Front in Europe.



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POPPY TEMPLATE

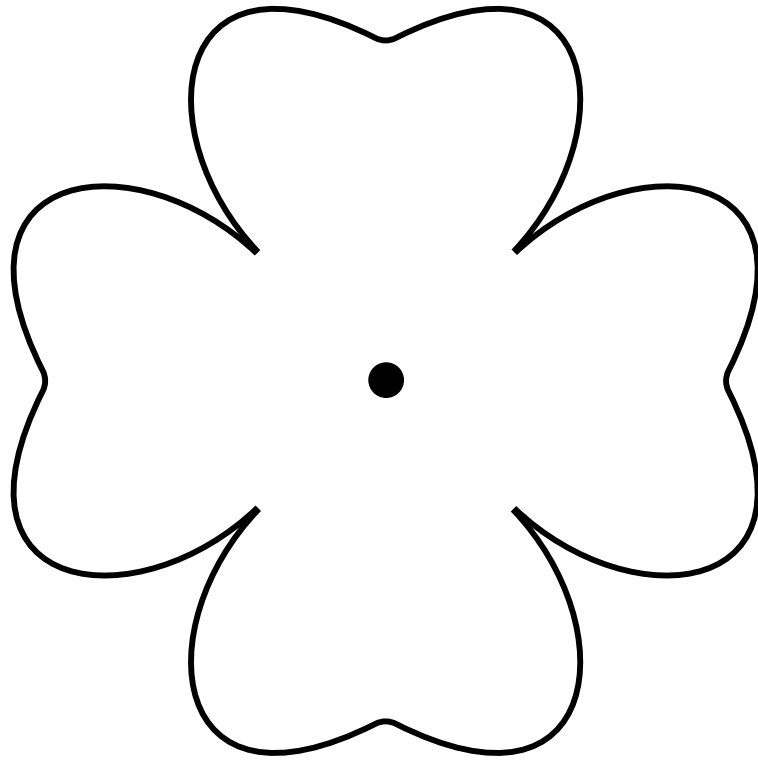


Figure 1. Petal template

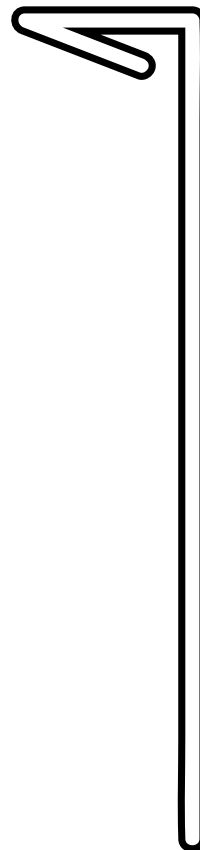


Figure 2. How to shape your pipe cleaner for a stem.

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