

The Flowers That Bloom This Spring

Are Dainty Blossoms Fashioned of
Organdy or Wool

By Celia Little

VERY one of us has a feminine longing for the pretty delicate 'boutonnieres' so generously displayed in the shop windows, and below are a few simple instructions which may be followed by the veriest beginner, and which will bring any number of these quaint and fetching French bouquets within reach at a very reasonable sum.

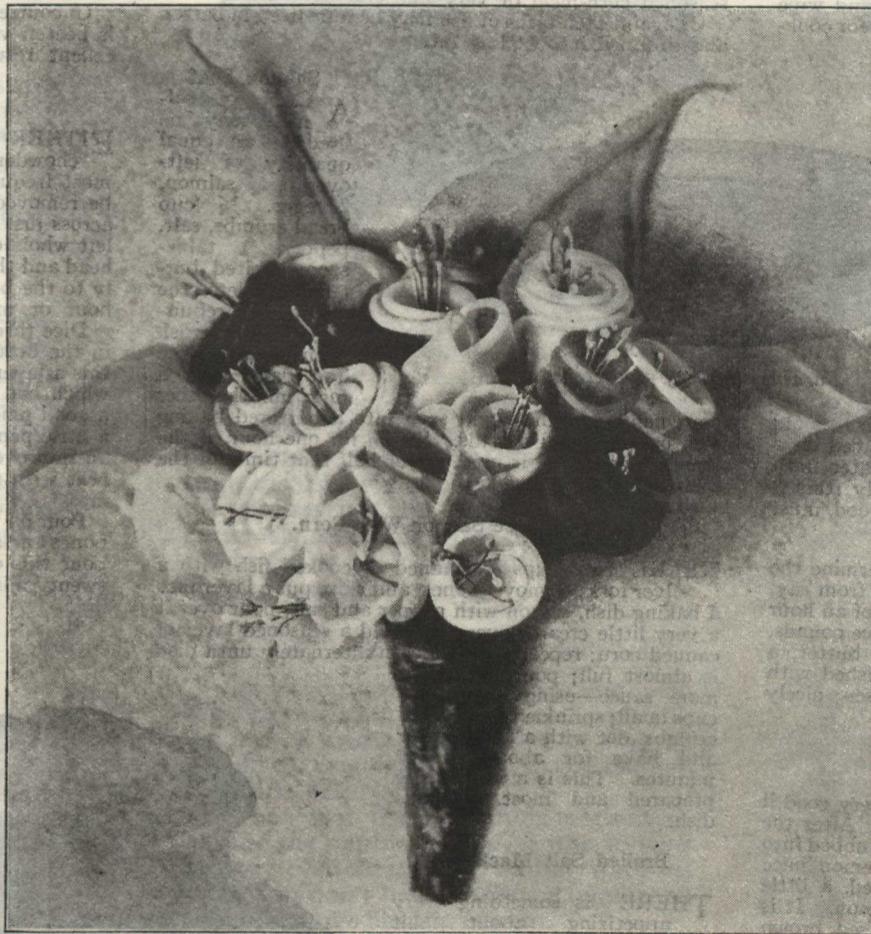
The organdy and silk flowers are most attractive on afternoon or evening gowns, while the wool ones are most seasonable as a trimming for fur coats, muffs, wraps, etc.

Procure at any of the shops one-sixth (1-6) yard of organdy, in let us say, lavender, rose, blue, corn, orange, and green for leaves. Other colors may be added as the buyer wishes, always keeping in mind contrasting colors. Add to this two bunches of yellow and one bunch of green stamens, a spool of fine wire (go to a hardware store for this), and two yards of mending tissue from a pressing parlor. Cut the wire into 3½ inch lengths, and the mending tissue ¼ inch x 3 inches. You are now in a position to begin work.

Tear the organdy, which will be 6 inches across, into widths of 2 inches. Round off the two corners on the same side, and holding firmly between the fingers, roll from right to left. A couple of turns will do this. When roll is completed, crease in the middle and cutting from the side opposite the roll, cut out a small "V" of organdy, with the top of "V" almost at roll. (See Fig. A). Then with needle and thread, gather round rough edge from right to left, being sure to catch the roll, and always keeping the roll on the inside. Draw up. Now take 3 yellow and 2 green stamens, bend in the middle and insert between the two leaves of the sweetpea. Draw up tightly, wind base of flower with thread, securing stamens with a few additional stitches. Take a heavy darning needle and put through base of flower, draw out, and through this opening, insert one end of wire, bringing it down and fastening with two or three twists to the longer piece. Now take mending tissue, and commencing at base of flower, wind neatly to bottom of wire. This makes a very dainty and attractive sweetpea as at Fig. "B".

The roses, as at Fig. "C" are made on the bias. Make a true bias of the organdy and cut into two (2) inch strips, rounding off the corners, and roll from right to left. With roll on the outside, turn from left to right enlarging the flower by little pleats at base. When rose is shaped up, fold the stamens as for the sweetpeas, insert in centre of rose, make opening with needle, insert one end of wire, making sure to secure stamens; and bring it down and fasten it to longer piece as before. Wind the wire stem with the tissue, as in case of sweetpea. For the large single roses, tear organdy into 2½ inch

strips and cut in two, round off corners, roll and gather across bottom. Sew four of these together. Make four more and arrange on top of first four, building up the rose, and decreasing number as one nears top. Here make three smaller petals of a darker shade for centre. Be sure that petals are all sewn together firmly and neatly. Add wire stem as before, and tape. Very attractive single roses have milliner's leaves attached to wire stem before they are taped. A medium sized rose will have four tiers, 4 large petals,

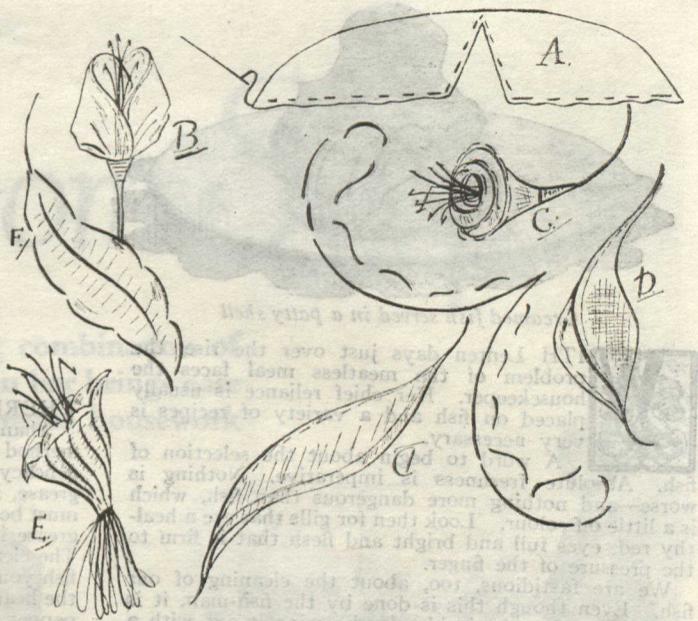


Crisp and lovely, these pastel-tinted flowers add the finishing touch to a dainty frock

8 medium, and 3 small petals.

Small calla lilies may be fashioned in the same way, tearing the organdy in larger strips, and making a deeper roll.

The leaves, as at Fig. "D", are made of 1¼ to 1½



A working chart for the organdy flowers

inch strips with one end rounded. They are rolled from bottom up both sides to the top, and where roll meets, organdy may be pulled out to make tip of leaf. Attach wire stem and tape as before.

Many variations of these flowers are seen in the shops. Some have picoted edges instead of rolled edges. Some leaves are squares of machine picoted organdy attached to wire stem, and taped. These, however, are within the limits of anyone's purse and may be made at home in an evening.

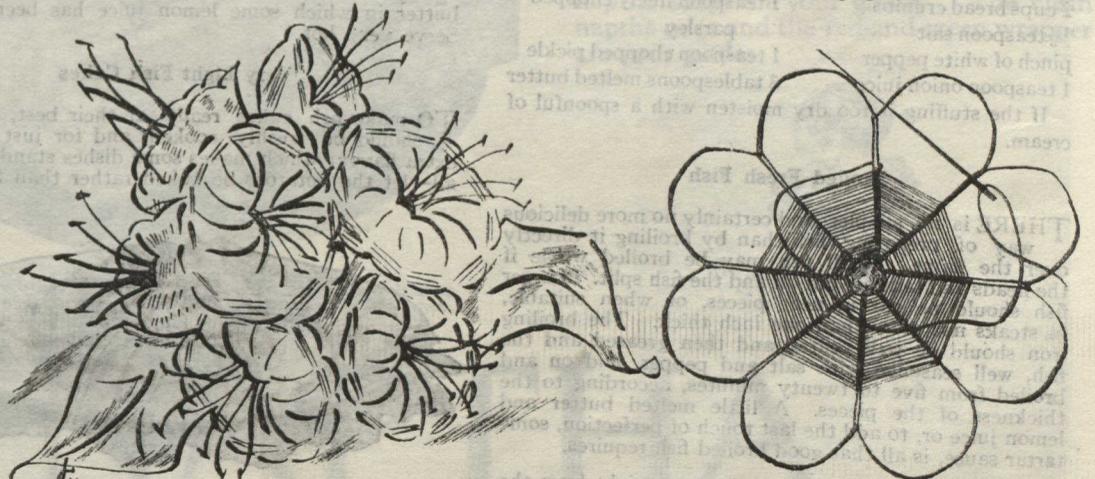
THE wool flowers are made as follows:—Procure six daintily colored skeins of wool dress embroidery in practically the same shades as the organdy. Make a cardboard shape 2½ inches in diameter. Make eight notches around edge, equidistant from each other. Trim neatly between the notches. Determine centre of circle and cut small opening. Thread a long piece of wool through a wool needle and bring through centre of cardboard, leaving a good 1½ or 2 inches of wool underneath for stems. Wind thread around first notch, bring back to centre, carry through leaving 1½ inches underneath, bring up and thread around next notch, always bringing back to centre and carrying underneath for stems. Hold this extra wool firmly in the hand, and it will help keep wool on cardboard in place, and result in a closer and neater flower. When all the notches have been threaded around (each notch should have two threads to it), beginning at the centre of circle, take a back stitch on first strand of wool, then on next, etc., always working from left to right—or backwards. Keep the work close but not tight. When circle has been covered, remove wool pattern carefully, pull flower up, and a very pretty miniature morning-glory will result, as at Fig. "E". Weave the thread down through

one of the veins. Fold stamens as for roses, and fasten to wire. Insert wire in flower, draw down to desired position and fasten into place with a few stitches of the wool needle. Cut loops of wool at bottom. These may be left free, or may be wound over with a silver or colored ribbon for neatness and attractiveness.

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Just right, for the sports hat or dark frock



Showing how to notch the cardboard for wool flowers; note how back-stitch is taken