How to Make Flowers from Things You Have or Can Collect

Generally, I would begin a tutorial listing all the things you will need. Because I do not want you to go to a store I have worked to make these flowers with things most people have at home. You will however need a scissors. If you happen to have the following supplies they will be helpful and you should gather them up: string, tape, twist ties, pipe cleaners, paint, markers, crayons.

We are going to make these flowers out of cardboard packaging from household goods and sticks from your yard/neighborhood. I found all my sticks within a block of my house in the city.

Start by doing a treasure hunt of things in your home packaged with GREEN packaging.

These are the green packages I found in my house. Grown-ups can find alternative places for the products.
Next collect packaging for the flower parts. Look for bright colors but also the (often) white lids from cottage cheese and sour cream containers are soft plastic and easy to cut. Save your TP roll cardboard if you have paint or crayons or markers to lively them up. This is what I fond in my house.

*note: I took the photo before I started the project and the laundry detergent plastic is too hard to cut with a regular scissor.

Stick collecting: Get a good variety of straight ones and Funky ones.
Toilet Paper Tube Flowers

I’m going to anticipate you will have a lot of tubes so you can experiment with coloring them in before you make the flower versus after. First, use a scissors to cut the petals (see pattern page). Then curl them down and shape them to look like a flower. Then pinch the other end together. The holes are to hold the bottom together/ to the stick with string or twist ties. If you have tape though, just use that. If you none of those things you can make our own “string” using cut up plastic bags. Use this string to attach the flower to your stick.
Plastic Bottle Flowers
Cut the top 1/3 or so of the bottle off with a scissors. Flip it around—it already looks like a flower! Cut some petals (see pattern page). You can paint this or use markers if you have them. Find a rectangle of brightly colored packaging and following visual direction on pattern page make the stamens. Try to make them a bit longer than your flower so they stick out. Attaching the stamen to the flower and the flower to the stick will be challenging without tape. Here are some ideas: find a stick thick enough so the plastic flower just jams on there. Use the rolled up cardboard stamen to help make that work.

Cherry Blossom Flowers

These are the easiest and I think look the coolest. Use the pattern template provided and cut the flowers from lids or other packaging (mine are made from cottage cheese lids and cardboard packaging). Use a contrasting color for the inner circles. The holes in the middle act like button holes. Use string or twist ties to attach them together and then to the branch.
Leaves

Any of the flowers can have any types of leaf. Use the patterns and your collected green packaging to trace and cut them out. Cut a small X in the designated spot and slide the leaves up the branches.
This leaf structure is called PALMATE because it looks like a hand.

Cut the tiny bit smaller than the diameter of your stick.

Look for a straight, sturdy stick.
Some Types of Leaves

- Cuneate
- Ovate
- Oblong
- Lanceolate
STIGMA
STAMENS
STYLE
FILAMENT
ANThER
PETAL
OVARY
SEPAL
PEDUNCLE