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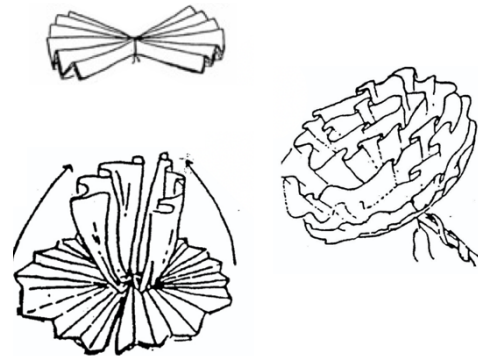
Yaqui Paper Flowers

Have you ever daydreamed about a favorite place where everything is perfect? The Yaqui believe in an enchanted world called the “Flower World,” or “Sea Ania” in Yoeme (Yaqui). It is like the desert near Tucson, but it is always filled with animals and beautiful flowers. Flowers are a very important part of any Yaqui ceremony or celebration. They remind people of the beauty of the Flower World.

How to make paper flowers:

Supplies

- various colors of tissue paper or crepe paper
- pipe cleaners
- string
- scissors



Directions

1. Cut the paper into squares at least 8 x 8 inches. Some people like to do it with a rectangular shape instead. Experiment and decide which shape you prefer.
2. Place 4 to 6 pieces of tissue paper on top of each other. You can use all one color or mix them. The top sheet will be the color in the middle, inside the flower.
3. Fold the pile of papers accordion style, like you are making a paper fan.
4. Tie a piece of string firmly, but gently in the center of the folded paper. You can also use a piece of pipe cleaner to twist around instead of the string. If so, leave the long end dangling as this will be your stem.
5. Gently spread out the paper so it looks like a fan. Be careful as the paper tears easily.
6. Lift tissue paper, one piece at a time, toward the center and “scrunch.” Continue until all of the pieces are bunched together.
7. Hook a pipe cleaner through string to create a stem for your flower.