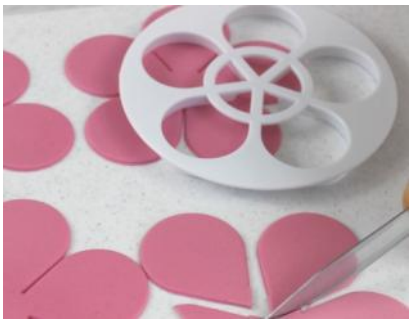
How to make perfect sugar roses with

Rapid Rose

The Five-Petal Rose Support Pad



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www.immaculateconfections.co.uk

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About the Author….

Thank you for purchasing this tutorial and a Rapid Rose—the five petal rose support pad.

Increasingly popular for wedding and celebration cakes, roses are so very beautiful and come in such a wonderful range of colours, from bright jewels to subtle pastels. I find myself making a huge number of roses each year and so needed a reliable and speedy way to make them…

I am so pleased to share with you my new tool and method for making roses: The Rapid Rose. Once you get used to the techniques and methods used you will be able to make perfect roses consistently and quickly, in a range of sizes. They'll be sure to delight your friends, family and customers time and time again...

I hope you enjoy this tutorial and find it easy to follow. I will be releasing more tutorials soon so follow the page on facebook or Instagram to keep up date and let me know if there is something you would like me to feature.

Thanks again and Happy caking!

Natalie

Natalie Porter is the owner of Immaculate Confections, based just outside London in the UK. She has been making cakes for local customers for years and is pleased to be recommended by some of Hertfordshire's top venues and wedding planners.

Her most noteworthy achievement to date is winning Gold five times at the prestigious Cake International competitions. She is also a regular contributor to Cake Decoration and Sugarcraft Magazine, Cake Craft Guides and Cake International Magazine.

Natalie loves to teach and demonstrate, passing on the techniques and lessons learnt over years of practice, trial and error. She loves cats and all things Sci-fi and fantasy and so always has a soft-spot for any cakes that are based on geeky things.

You can find Immaculate Confections online at:

www.immaculateconfections.co.uk
facebook.com/immaculateconfectionsuk | instragram.com/mmaculateconfectionsuk

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Equipment:

- **Rapid Rose - the five petal rose support pad** ~ to construct the rose
- **Work board or non-stick rolling mat** ~ to roll the paste out on
- **Small rolling pin with rounded ends** ~ to roll out the flowerpaste and soften the edges
- And/or **large ball tool** ~ to soften the edges of the petals
- **Cutting knife** ~ to cut individual petals
- **Water brush pen** ~ to wet the petals for sticking
- **Prepared bud or Poly-bud** ~ 20mm poly-bud used in this tutorial
- **Five petal rose cutters** ~ 90mm cutter used in this tutorial, other sizes will make bigger or smaller roses and will require an appropriately sized bud
- **Plastic wallet** ~ to keep cut paste fresh, a punched pocket for paper will do
- **Firm foam former pad** ~ to use with the rolling pin or ball tool to soften the petal edges
- **Approx. 50g flowerpaste** ~ makes one large full rose, using a 90mm cutter
- **A cube of polystyrene** ~ to place to rose in for drying

This tutorial is based on making a rose with a 90mm cutter and 20mm ball.
For info on other sizes see Pg. 13

All the tools used in this tutorial are available to purchase online at
www.immaculateconfections.co.uk

Rapid Rose Tutorial...

Step 1

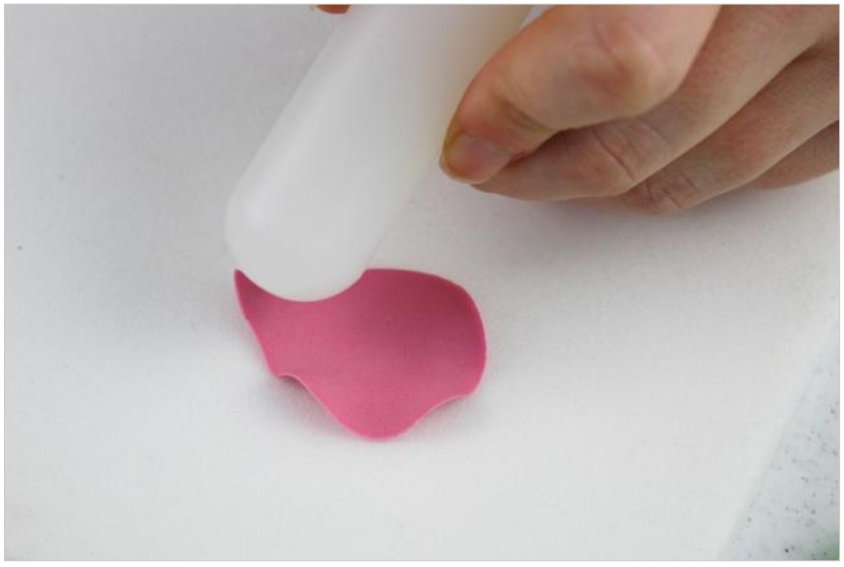
Attach a small piece of flower-paste to your 20mm Poly-bud, forming a cone or 'hot' on top, thus creating a bud shape.
You can make your own Poly-buds by gluing polystyrene balls to toothpicks; a hot glue gun will work very well.
Alternatively, make a bud from flower paste, but be sure to let it dry at least overnight.
(This tutorial uses a 2cm ball and 90mm cutter. For other recommended sizes turn to Pg 13)

Step 2

Use a five petal rose cutter - for a big rose cut three full shapes and three single petals; for a medium rose three full shapes and one single petal; for a small rose two full shapes and one single petal.
(Use a knife or cutting wheel to cut the shape into its individual petals.)
Keep the cut shapes under plastic until you are ready to use them so they do not dry out.
(This tutorial uses a 90mm cutter.)

Step 3

Take a single petal. Use a ball tool or the end of your rolling pin to soften the edge and stretch the paste to make the petal a little bigger.



Step 4

Flip the petal over and wet half the petal as shown with a little water or edible glue.

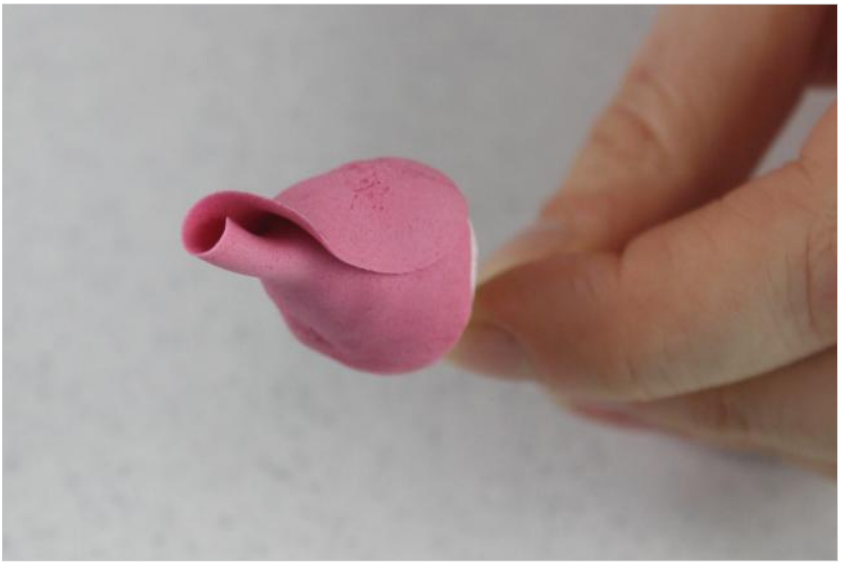
This first petal is used sideways—make sure you turn it 90 degrees so it's the right way round, as shown in the picture.

Step 5

Place your bud on the petal (we're still using the petal sideways) and fold in the pointed bit, pulling it across and down, forming the inner edge of the spiral at the centre of the rose.

Step 6

Carefully stretch and fold over the other side of the petal. If the paste tears at the bottom it doesn't matter as only the top part will be on view.
Make sure it's tucked in well to create a neat and tight spiral for the centre of the rose, as shown.

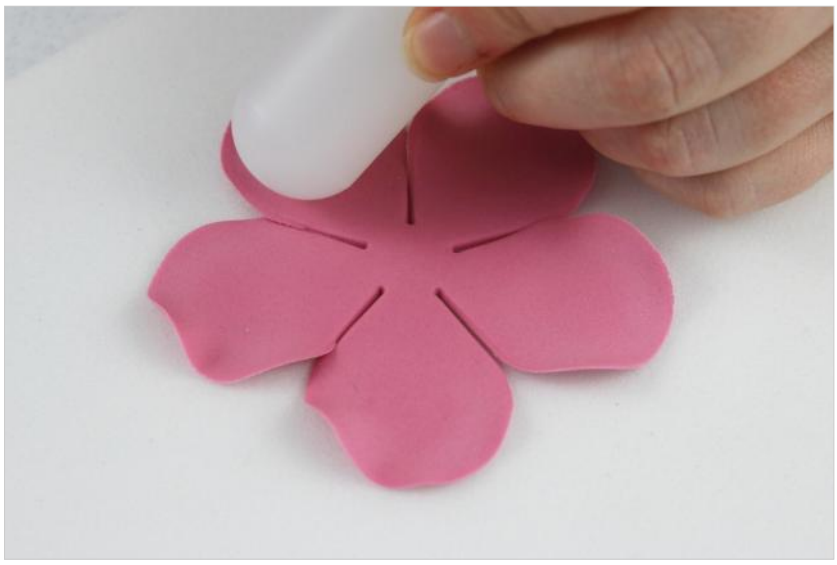


Step 7

Place the bud into a piece of polystyrene or foam to dry whilst you complete the next few steps...

Step 8

Take one of the five-petal shapes and use the end of your rolling pin or a large ball tool to frill and soften the edges.



Step 9

Flip the shape upside-down onto the Rapid Rose pad. Wet the centre and paint a 'V' onto each petal.

Step 10

Insert your rose bud through the centre of the paste and pad. The pad supports the petals, so no breaking or tearing!

Step 11

Begin by attaching one side of two opposing petals, as shown.

Step 12

Attach the remaining side of the petals so that the edges overlap the first side you stuck down. Pinch and adjust the petals as necessary so they look right.

Rapid Rose Tutorial...

Step 13

Attach one side of each of the remaining three petals to the rose bud.

Step 14

Then attach the other side so they over lap, same as the first two petals.

Step 15

Again, pinch and adjust the petals or curl the edges back to give a natural looking shape.

Step 16

Take the second five-petal shape and once again use a ball tool to frill and soften the edges, and to make the petals a little bigger. Curl the top edges of each petal back a little, and leave to set for a minute or two.

Step 17

Flip the five-petal shape upside down onto the Rapid Rose pad. Again, wet the centre and paint a 'V' onto each petal before inserting the bud through the centre.

Step 18

Choose a petal to start with and attach one side of it, then do the same for the next petal. Then, before moving on, attach the second side of the first petal, on top of the first side of the second petal. They should all overlap like fish scales.

Step 19

Continue overlapping and attaching the petals until all five have been used. The final petal should overlap the first petal you attached.
Adjust the shape and position of the petals as necessary.

Step 20

This is where you stop if making a small rose. A variety of sizes will look good if you are arranging multiple roses onto a cake.

Step 21

For a medium rose, add one more layer of five-petals, repeating Steps 16—19.

Step 22

For a full, large rose, take the third and final five-petal shape and use a ball tool to frill and soften the edges, and to make the petals a little bigger. Prepare the two spare petals in the same way, also cutting off the tip of the point with a knife. Curl the edges up and leave to harden for a couple of minutes.

Step 23

Flip the five-petal shape onto the pad and wet as before, also painting a 'V' on to the two spare petals. Begin attaching the petals so they overlap again, but this time attach them closer together. Once you have attached three petals, slot in an extra petal, being sure to keep the same overlapping pattern in place.

Step 24

Attach the remaining two petals from the five-petal shape and you should be left with a gap to slot the final extra petal into. Press all the wet edges down firmly so everything is well attached and solid.

Step 25

Adjust and tweak the petals as necessary and leave to dry. Depending upon how stiff or dry your paste is, you may want to dry it upside down so the petals don't flop back. To do this, use a peg to attach the toothpick to a draying rack or suspended string (like a washing line) or gently place the rose upside down on a soft piece of sponge.

Step 26

Once your rose is dry, use a soft brush to add a little petal dust in an appropriate colour to the edges of the petals. This will add depth to the colour and bring your rose to life.

The completed Rose

Rose sizes and Poly-buds:

Five-petal cutters are available at immaculateconfections.co.uk in a range of sizes - below are the bud size I recommend for each cutter…

Remember, the Rapid Rose method only uses one size of cutter for each rose, so the bigger the cutter, the bigger the finished rose will be or indeed the smaller the cutter the smaller the rose will be... The method is the same for each size.

- 60mm cutter ~ make your own flowerpaste bud, approx 12mm diameter
- 70, 80 & 90mm cutter ~ use a 20mm Poly-bud
- 100 & 120mm cutter ~ use a 25mm Poly-bud

The Poly-buds are nothing more complicated than a polystyrene ball attached to a cocktail or tooth pick, using a hot glue gun! I do it this way as they're ready to use immediately and can go straight into a cake - we eat food on cocktail sticks all the time so I'm personally happy to do this… whether or not you're comfortable doing so too is your choice.

You can totally make your own, and in fact I recommend that you do as it's far more cost effective… and I'm kinda bored of gluing little balls to toothpicks!

I get my polystyrene balls from a shop online called the Craftmill—they do a whole range of sizes and have always provided great service.
You can go direct to: http://www.craftmill.co.uk
Or find them on Ebay: https://www.ebay.co.uk/usr/dougarts

Toothpicks come from the supermarket…

...And you can pick up a Low-melt hot glue gun at Hobbycraft, the Range or Amazon for little more than a fiver.

Et voila! Your very own poly-bud factory! =0)

Hints, Tips & Troubleshooting:

- Remember to use corn flower, petal base or a white vegetable fat when rolling out your flower paste as it will stop it sticking to the board. If you find that corn flower is drying your paste out, swap to something fat based, eg. Crisco, Trex, White Flora or a purpose made petal base.

- If you are in a very humid climate you may need to wait a little longer for the flower-paste to firm up at Steps 16 and 22.

- If you are making lots of roses, set up a production line. Cut a bunch of single petals and make all the buds… then do each of the first five-petal shapes… then the second… this way you should be able to make at least four or five in an hour.

- Have a good look at the pictures and close-ups of finished roses - see how the petals are shaped and arranged for a realistic shape.

- If you want to make a dark coloured rose, eg. red or black, it's best to either buy pre-coloured flowerpaste or to make a paler version of the colour and then darker the finished rose with petal dusts.

- Try a couple of different brands of flowerpaste - they don't all work and feel quite the same so if you try a few out you'll be sure to find a favourite that works for you.

- If your flowerpaste has become a little dry and is cracking when you roll it or use the ball tool, you can try kneading in a little white vegetable fat to re-moisten it. Fresh paste is the easiest to work with, so if you have been using the same piece for some time to practice, it may be best to start again with a fresh bit.

- If your petals crack or tear when your assembling the rose and sticking them on, it's probably because they have become too dry. If this happens at the base it doesn't matter too much as it won't be visible, especially within the initial rows. If it happens at the visible top of a petal it will be best to make that part again.

- For larger arrangements, try making roses in a variety of shades, eg. a deep pink rose pared with paler pink buds or small roses.

- For graduated colouring, start with a bud and single petal in a dark shade of your chosen colour. Add a little white paste for the first five-petal shape, then a little more for the second and again for the final row. The rose shown here started with red in the centre, with yellow added in increasing amounts for the remaining rows of petals.

Decorated cakes and close-ups, made using The Rapid Rose Support Pad