

History Of Quilling

By Eileen Walters

Part 2: History Of Huskings:

Huskings is the name given to shapes made by winding 2mm or 3mm paper strips around pins arranged in various shapes. The resulting shapes were used in Georgian times to decorate boxes, tea caddies, pictures etc.

Examples of some of this work can be seen in museums around the country including the Victoria & Albert museum in London. The Lady Lever Gallery in Port Sunlight has a cabinet decorated with quilling, and a tea caddy made by one of the Bronte sisters can be seen at the Bronte museum in Howarth, Yorkshire.

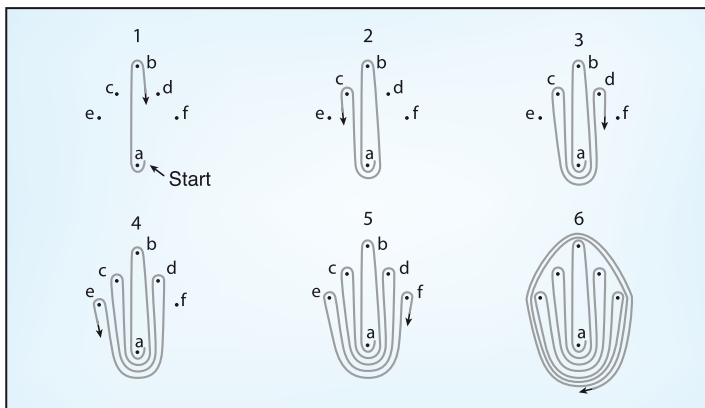
Modern huskings are used to make earrings but they also make beautiful flower petals or leaves and are therefore often used to make decorative framed pictures and greetings cards.

Method:

The huskings are worked on a husking mat or any board suitable for putting pins in. You will also need a pack of glass headed pins (like those used in quilting), P.V.A. glue, scissors and of course quilling paper in suitable colours and a quilling tool if you use one.

The placement of the pins on the board will determine the exact size and shape of each petal so different layouts are used to make different types of flower. You may also need a different number of pins for more or less complex petals.

The following diagram and instructions show the basic method of winding which is the same for all the petals. Huskings can also be made without the collar for a different effect.



1. Start at pin a and make a short loop then take the paper up to pin b.
2. Go around pin b, back down around the loop at pin a and up towards pin c.
3. Go around pin c then bring the paper back down around pin a and up round pin d on the other side.
4. Bring the paper back down around pin a and up the other side round pin e.
5. Go back down around pin a, up round pin f and back down to a.
6. Take the paper around the outside of the shape once or twice forming a collar to strengthen, finishing at the bottom. Glue the end down and remove the pins from the board to free the petal. Then if desired add a tiny dab of glue on the back of the piece at the base where all the pieces touch.

Make one husking first and if pleased with the shape and size, return the pins to the same position on the board to make further identical shapes.

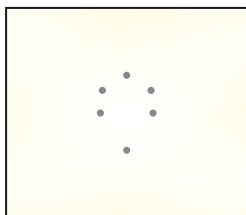
Another form of husking is the wheatear husking where the pins are evenly spaced one above the other, winding is done in the same

way as before. This method is used to make the tall leaves used on these cards.

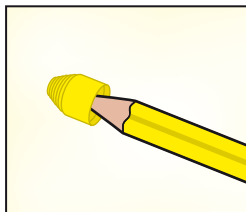
Daffodil Card:

Flowers:

Make 15 petals. Use the pin layout on the right and wind each petal using 2mm bright yellow paper. Pinch lightly at the top and bottom to shape.

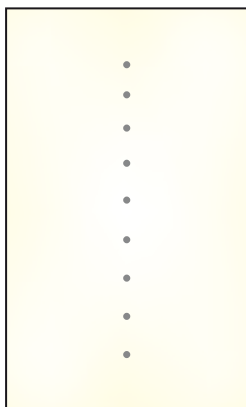


Make 3 trumpets. Wind a 22cm length of bright yellow paper onto the quilling tool and glue the end to make a tight peg. Remove from the tool and slightly dome the shape by pushing into the centre of the peg with the end of the quilling tool, the pointed end of a yellow pencil or a blunt pencil in any colour so it doesn't mark the inside of the shape.



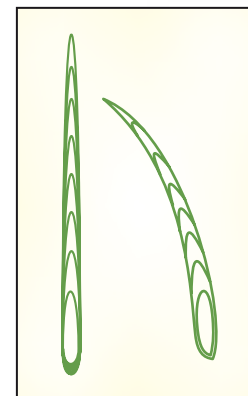
Tall Leaves:

Make 12 of these in different sizes. The leaves are made from 2mm gold edged green paper using the wheatear huskings method.



The exact sizes are not important but use the pin layout on the right for the largest leaves. Use less pins with the

same spacing or just slightly closer together to make the smaller leaves. Pinch the shapes to make them slender and bend to form into pretty leaf shapes.



I have used three of the leaves themselves as stems for this daffodil design. To make the stems, pinch a little more firmly to make them narrower than the leaves and don't bend them, keep them nice and straight.

Place a background into the card behind the aperture and glue the card shut. Assemble and glue the flowers onto the card as desired.

Note: Much of the information used in this article has been obtained from past issues of the Quilling Guild Magazine and Quilling Guild Handbook.

Above: The red poppy card is made using the same pin layout for the petals but is pinched very lightly at the top only to keep a more rounded shape. The bud is simply a petal backed with a crescent shape. The leaves are wheatear shape again but this time don't pinch them.

Left: In this wedding design the flower petals are made in the same manner as before but with fringed paper centres. The wedding rings are made from gold edged paper rolled round a piece of dowelling, glue the end before removing. The bells are made in the same way as the daffodil trumpets with tiny stamens similar to those used in cake decorating for the clangers.





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