

Make Cay Mai for Tet Nguyen Dan

- The Cay Mai is a small flowering tree that blooms in the southern part of Viet Nam during the season of Tet. People cut a branch to bring inside to decorate for Tet. Sometimes people will add lucky red envelopes or decorative New Year greetings to the branch.
- In the northern part of Viet Nam, it is too cold for this tree to be blooming during Tet. However, the peach blossom is blooming and is used as a decoration during Tet.

Supplies:

Small branch yellow tissue paper green pipe cleaners

What to do:

1. Cut the tissue paper into 4x4 inch squares and cut the pipe cleaners into thirds.
2. Choose two or more sheets of tissue paper.
3. Lay the sheets of tissue paper on top of one another.
4. Fold the stacked tissue paper like a fan.
5. Wrap one end of a pipe cleaner around the center of the folded paper and twist the pipe cleaner until secure. This is the stem of your flower.
6. Separate the layers of tissue paper, and shape your flower.
7. Wrap your flowers around the branch.
8. Add a lucky red envelope or Tet greeting if you wish.

