

Pua Kalo

(Anthurium Flower)

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The anthurium is translated as *pua kalo* in Hawaiian. The name is derived from the Hawaiian taro plant, *kalo*, because of its similar leaf shape. The material used to create this *mea hana no 'eau* (Hawaiian craft) is the *Pandanus tectorius*, better known as **hala**. The dried leaves of the hala tree, known as **lauhala**, were extensively used to fashion sails for canoes, woven mats and baskets, fine weave *pāpale* (hats), pillows, fans, purses, etc.



Supplies Needed:

- Spray Bottle/Mister (not included)
- Floral Tape (not included)
- Lauhala Kit: *enough supplies to fashion 3 pua kalo*
 - Stripped lauhala leaves (17 strands/*mau 'u*)
 - Floral Wires
 - Barbeque Sticks

STEPS:

- 1) Tape one of the stripped leaves provided vertically, at the base of the leaf with the strips facing upward, to a flat surface (ex: cutting board, hard plastic sheet, table, etc.)
- 2) Start by bringing down all of the “even” strips. The first strip on the far left should be facing up, then every other strip should be pulled down over the tape.
- 3) Fold back the strip standing in the far left corner over all of the “odd” strips horizontally.
- 4) Starting on the left, begin to weave by bringing UP the first strip over the horizontal strip. Then bring DOWN the next strip to hold it in place. Continue to weave the rest of the strips alternately in this manner.
- 5) Go back to the left side and repeat steps 3 & 4 until only one strip remains standing.

This completes ONE side of the pua kalo. There are 4 sides needed for this flower to be complete. Therefore, this process needs to be repeated 3 more times.

6) Turn the entire piece 90° counterclockwise. Now the last strip should be facing left horizontally.

Note: All of the strips are currently facing up again like they were in beginning (excluding the single horizontal strip on the left)

7) For this next section, bring down all of the “odd” strips. Now the first strip on the far left should be facing down and every other strip should remain up.

8) Fold UP the single horizontal strip on the left vertically.

9) Fold this same strip again horizontally across and over the strips facing up.

10) Repeat step 4 until there is only one strip that remains standing. This completes the second side of the pua kalo.

11) Repeat steps 6-10 two more times to complete the last two sections.

All four sections should now be completed with all strips going right and one single strip facing up

12) Turn the entire piece 90° counterclockwise. Now all the strips should be facing up with one strip facing left horizontally.

13) Remove and discard the tape used.

14) Gather 3-4 strips on the far right and pull them 90° to the right so they are horizontal. These will be used to fashion the stamen of the pua kalo.

15) Place the barbeque stick vertically with its base at the outside corner of the strips.

16) Roll inward all of the remaining strips facing up with the barbeque stick from the outside corner.

17) Pivot the piece and barbeque stick around the center as you continue rolling.

18) Roll until the weaving is overlapping and wrap the strips around the barbeque stick.

19) Trim some of the excess strips so the stem is not as thick (make sure not to cut them too short).

20) Wrap floral wire around the base of the flower to secure strips in place to ensure the flower doesn't unravel.

21) Wrap base of flower and barbeque stick with floral tape for a clean & finished look.