

Preserving Flowers with Wax Paper

Preserving flowers can be a fun hobby. Although you can't collect wildflowers from the refuge and we suggest you leave flowers for the pollinators, some people enjoy collecting roadside and invasive wildflowers or flowers from their garden for preserving. Here's a way to preserve your flowers:

Required Materials

- ❖ Flower
- ❖ Wax Paper
- ❖ Thin towel (like a dish towel)
- ❖ Clothes iron
- ❖ Ironing board or flat heat resistant surface

Process for Preserving

- ❖ Warm iron at a low to medium setting
- ❖ Place your flower between two sheets of wax paper
- ❖ Put your thin towel over the wax paper
- ❖ Press on the towel with a warm iron to seal the sheets of wax paper to each other
 - It may take some trial and error to get the timing right, but about 5 minutes should suffice, being careful not to burn your towel.
- ❖ Carefully flip the wax paper over and repeat the above steps.
- ❖ Cut around the flower leaving a small margin so that the flower stays sealed
 - Alternatively, you may decide to peel the wax paper gently away leaving behind your flower coated in a protective layer of wax.
- ❖ Enjoy and Show Off!