

# DIY Edible Centerpieces



## Learn How to Make Candy Bouquets, Cookie Bouquets and Fruit Arrangements

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## Chocolate Sundae

**Materials used:** a Sundae glass, Hershey's chocolate kisses of one flavor or several, straight candy cane (stick candy), Life Savers, curling ribbons, chenille wire or thin stem wire, and tools (scissors and wire cutters).

**Step 1.** Prepare a Sundae glass. In this case a 3.5" diameter x 6.5" height sundae glass.



**Step 2.** Fill the Sundae glass with the Hershey's chocolate kisses.



**Step 3.** Insert the stick candy of the corresponding color into the glass.



**Step 4.** Put Life Savers candy on the top representing “whipped cream”. You may use mini glue dots to hold these candies in place.



**Step 5.**

a) Take curling ribbons of several colors that match the kisses wrappers. Or you can buy a ready curl swirls.



b) Take a piece of chenille wire and tightly wrap it around the middle of the curling ribbons. Instead of chenille wire you can use white stem wire. Curl the ribbons by pulling them over the edge of the scissors.



c) Insert the curling ribbons in your arrangement. Your Candy Sundae with chocolate kisses is ready!



It is a very easy candy craft project, and I am sure your recipient will love this sweet gift of yours. You can add a beautiful greeting card and/or stuffed animal to this Candy Sundae if you wish.

## Candy Crafts: Bubble Gum Bouquet

**Note:** This craft project is only for your personal use. It is copyrighted.

**Materials used:** a flowerpot, Dubble Bubble Gum, blue cellophane, polka dot cellophane, floral foam, blue plastic grass or blue shredded paper, stem wire (16 or 18 ga), yellow curling ribbon, scotch tape, glue dots, and tools (scissors, serrated knife, and wire cutters).

**Step 1.** Take a flowerpot. It can be any flowerpot you like. I chose a yellow and blue ceramic flowerpot (5.5" in diameter), because it goes well with the yellow and blue wrappers of the bubble gum pieces.



**Step 2.** Cut the floral foam to the proper size so it will fit tightly in the flowerpot. Cut a piece of blue cellophane, and then put the piece of floral foam in the middle of this cellophane piece. Gather the cellophane up around the foam and insert it in the pot. The foam should be about 1" lower than the edge of the pot.



**Step 3.** Cover the foam with blue plastic decorative grass or shredded blue paper.



**Step 4.** Make several bubble gum flowers.

**a)** Take stem wire (16 or 18 ga) or bamboo skeweres, Dubble Bubble gum pieces, floral tape, scissors, and wire cutters.



**b)** Join 3 bubble gum pieces to each stem using green floral tape. First join a piece of candy to the end of the wire/bamboo skewer. One or two inches down the wire or skewer attach the second piece of candy. Go down another one or two inches and attach the third piece of candy on the opposite end of the second one.

If you use a bamboo skewer, wrap the rest of the skewer with floral tape so it is completely green. With green stem wire it is not necessary.

I made 10 bubble gum flowers. Three of them are taller than the others; they will be placed at the back of the bouquet.



**Step 5.** Wrap the bubble gum flowers in cellophane.

**a)** Cut a square piece of polka dot cellophane. In my case I used 7" x 7" pieces.

**b)** Carefully poke the bubble gum stem through the center of a cellophane piece, or fold the cellophane square in half and fold it in half again across the first fold and cut the tip off the corner. You will end up with a small hole in the center of your unfolded cellophane piece.





**c)** Pull the cellophane into a cone shape it should be just beneath the bubble gum pieces and tie it with a piece of yellow curling ribbon. Fluff the cellophane out.

Decorate all of the bubble gum flowers this way.



**Step 6.** Insert the bubble gum flowers into the pot. The tallest flowers go in the back. Arrange the flowers in a way you find attractive.



**Step 7.** You may want to add additional pieces of blue cellophane into the arrangement (in the back, in the middle, etc.) to create a fuller bouquet using floral picks.

Take cellophane and cut rectangular pieces. Take one of the rectangles and loosely fold it in half the short way and then in half the long way. Take a green floral pick, put about 1/2" of the closed corner of the cello piece against the blunt end of the pick, and wrap the wire tightly around it. Fluff the cellophane out. Now the cello or tissue paper piece is ready to be inserted into the floral foam.

Your bubble gum bouquet is ready!



## Valentine's Day Candy Bouquet

**To make this Valentine's Day candy craft, you will need:** a red decorative bucket, floral foam, red shredded paper, Valentine's candy pieces (I bought some of them in Wal-Mart and others in Walgreens), a small heart-shaped box of candy, lollipop sticks, Popsicle sticks, a low temperature glue gun with glue sticks, a Valentine's balloon, curling ribbon, and tools (scissors and wire cutters).

**Step 1.** Prepare a St. Valentine's themed container and floral foam. I used a red decorative bucket that you can buy in Wal-Mart for \$1 or \$2.



**Step 2.** Using your container as a guide cut the floral foam to the proper size so it fits snugly into the container. The foam should sit a little bit lower than the rim of the container.



**Step 3.** Cover the foam with red shredded paper.



**Step 4.** Let's prepare the candy pieces for insertion into the foam.

**a)** Prepare the Valentine's Day candy and one small heart-shaped box of candy and lollipop sticks and/or Popsicle sticks. You can buy lollipop sticks and Popsicle sticks at your local craft store.



**b)** Using hot glue (use a low temperature glue gun), attach a lollipop stick or Popsicle stick to the back of each piece of candy. Hold it for a few seconds until the glue cools

and the candy piece is secured to the stick. You can apply a piece of scotch tape over it.



To secure the heart-shaped box of candy well use a Popsicle stick rather than a lollipop stick. If you need to extend the length of the stick, glue another Popsicle stick to the first Popsicle stick overlapping them by approximately an inch.



**Homemade valentines gifts - Step 5.** Insert the candy into the foam.

**a)** Insert 3 pieces of candy in the first row creating a fan pattern. Push the sticks all the way into the foam.

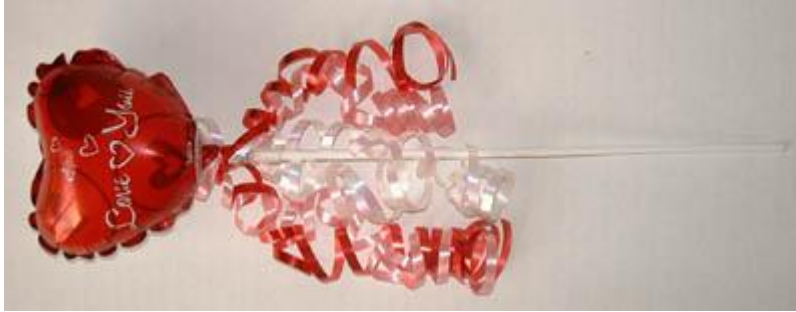


b) Arrange the other candy pieces in 2-4 rows. The 2nd row is higher than the 1st one, and the 3rd row is higher than the 2nd one.



**Valentines day craft - Step 6.** Add a decorative element to the bouquet.

**a)** Take a small Valentine's balloon (I bought the balloon at a local grocery store). Tie pieces of red, pink, and white curling ribbon to the balloon stick just beneath the bottom of the balloon.



Insert the balloon at the back of the arrangement in the center. Separate the curling ribbon strands.



## Graduation Gifts: DIY Candy Leis

**Supplies you need to make candy leis:** wrapped hard candy, clear plastic food wrap or clear cellophane, curling ribbon and scissors.

**Step 1.** Buy wrapped hard candies; Werther's Original was used in this example. Don't use sweets that will melt due to body heat and temperature.

**Step 2.** Decide on the length of your candy lei (for example, 4 feet long for an adult and 3 feet long for a child). Take a roll of clear cellophane or clear plastic wrap and measure it to that length. Cut the plastic food wrap or cello off the roll.

**Step 3.** Lay out your cellophane or plastic food wrap on a flat surface. Smooth it out; it should not have big wrinkles. Lay the chosen sweets (one piece at a time or several pieces at a time) on the plastic wrap leaving the space of about 1 to 2 inches in between individual pieces of candy or groups of candy. This space is where you will tie your curling ribbon. Leave approximately 3 inches on both ends to tie your lei together.



**Step 4.** Fold your plastic wrap over and carefully roll the tube of sweets until they are tightly secured in the plastic wrap. Cut off the excess plastic wrap if necessary (Note: if you roll sweets more than 3 or 4 times, you will not be able to see through the colors of your candies well).





**Step 5.** Cut curling ribbon into 10 to 12-inch pieces. Slide the curling ribbon under your tube of sweets between each piece of candy and tie the ribbon; knot it twice then curl the ends with scissors.



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