The Mum Corsage: College-Carry Mum

The large Mum has become a traditional corsage flower for school athletic events - especially colorful autumn football games. Make sure to use the correct school colors when selecting the ribbons and the flower itself.

Assembly Instructions

1. Cut about one-eighth inch off the stem end of five large Lemon leaves. Staple all five leaves together at the base to form a circular back reinforcement for the large Mum leaving a small opening through which the Mum stem will be inserted.

2. Secure each Lemon leaf snugly beneath the base of the flower using *Floratape* ® stem wrap as a binding and for reinforcement.

3. Cut the stem of one large select Mum to a length of approximately two to three inches. Wire a Hyacinth stick to the stem securely and over wrap with several winds of *Floratape* ® stem wrap to make a neat, comfortable carrying stick. This also gives rigidity as well as adds to the color scheme of the carry Mum.

4. Prepare a rather large fluffy silk ribbon bow with long streamers (combine school colors with one large bow.) Attach to the stick-handle very close to the base of the flower. A school initial letter can be attached to the very top of the Mum. Use fine wire to attach the initial to the flower head and wrap the wire with *Floratape* ® stem wrap. Make sure all protruding wires are taped down for safety.

A Pin-On Mum corsage is another possible variation for budget-conscious students. It is made with eight snowdrift Pompons accented with decorative, miniature footballs. Start by submerging flower heads in room temperature water for five minutes. Next, wire and tape each stem and arrange Pompons in a triangular fashion, adding a few sprigs of Japanese foliage and three or four wired and taped footballs between the flower heads and the foliage. Last, cut stems at irregular lengths rather than taping all the stems together to create one stem.

This corsage can also be made for school dance activities by adding ornaments such as holiday decorations, hearts or other appropriate novelties.

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