



Floral Coasters Kit

You are recommended to read all the instructions before starting.



Introduction

Welcome to the Floral Coaster kit from QJS Marquetry. In addition to the materials provided you will need a sharp craft knife, a metal straight-edge or ruler, masking tape (clear sticky tape will do) and some PVA wood glue. For finishing your coaster inserts you might want to use some medium grade abrasive paper and a coat or two of clear lacquer or varnish.

The pack includes a range of veneer suitable for making any of the designs provided. (Please note that some photographs in these instructions show the original coasters which were slightly smaller and came in a holder – these are no longer available).

Getting Started

These instructions assume you have worked through the practice design and are familiar with the "window method" for marquetry. You don't have to use any of the designs supplied. Any design, perhaps a picture from a magazine or even something you have drawn yourself, can be interpreted in marquetry.

Background

Some larger sheets of veneer are provided and these are for use as the background to your designs. You can use the same background for all four coasters, or a mixture.

Always make your picture slightly bigger than final size to allow a little spare for final trimming. This allows you to centre the design in the coaster to ensure a good result. The designs included are drawn at the size of the visible window of the coasters, but you should make each insert to at least the size of the red line, and trim back to the red line once complete.

The Designs

In general, the pictures can be tackled in the same way. Cut in "background" stems and leaves, then the various flower parts, working from those at the back to those in front. In the picture at the right, the lily design is part made, with two of the back petals already cut in and a third part made. The petal has been cut to fit the window, then split into two pieces so that these can be shaded separately, and darkened along one edge, to enhance the petal's shape. Leaves can also have the edge on one half darkened to indicate the central leaf vein, but the two halves should be made with different grain directions, indicating the run of the finer leaf veins (as you did with the leaf exercise).





Finishing Off

For a quick result you can simply leave your work taped on the back, trim to size and fit into the coasters. However a more durable method is as follows.

Trim each finished design to size (80 x 80 mm) ensuring the flower is central. Keep tape on the front, but remove any tape from the back. Peel the back off one of the vinyl squares and stick the film to the back of the marquetry. Press on really well and trim to size.

Varnishing or lacquering will bring out the colours of the veneers. Remove any tape from the front of the work. Sand lightly using a medium grade abrasive sheet (something around 150-250 grit). Take care when sanding – hold the insert down flat on the table and sand gently from the centre to the outside. Sanding the other way it is easy to catch the edge and damage your work. Brush or vacuum off any dust and give the inserts a thin coat of clear lacquer or varnish (follow the manufacturer's instructions). The marquetry may curl a little, but should relax.

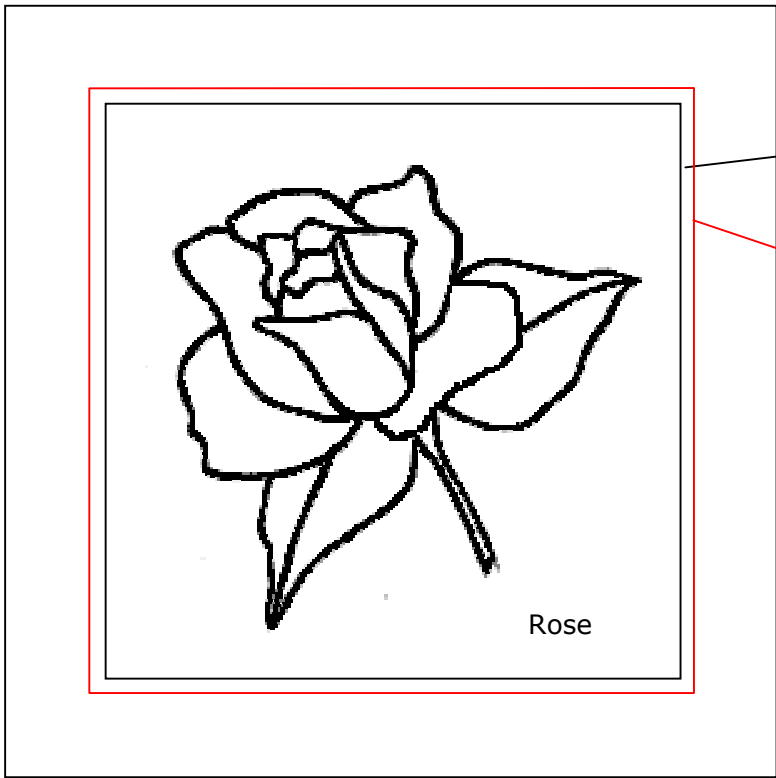
Once the varnish has dried fit the insert to its coaster, ensuring the outer edges of the foam backing are well pressed down. There is a short video (30 seconds) from the supplier showing how to insert a photo into one of the coasters at: <https://youtu.be/EWtwWRyEuXk> - I think you need to press down the foam edges more firmly than shown in the video.

Enjoy your coasters!

For more help and information about marquetry please contact:

QJS Marquetry
01785 850614
www.qjsmarquetry.co.uk

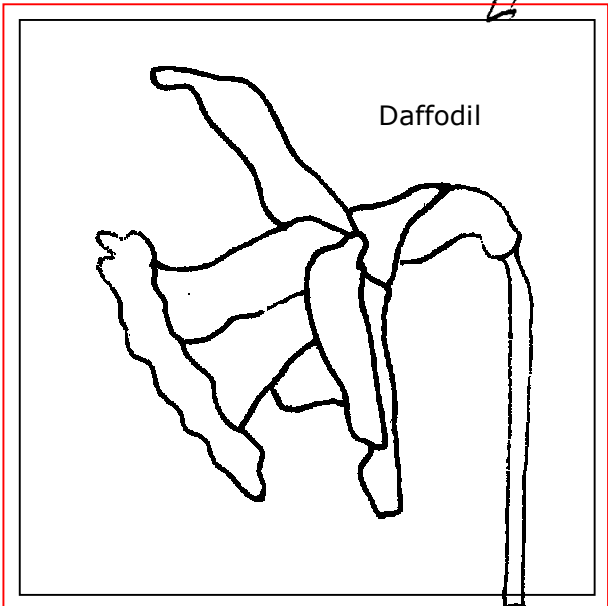
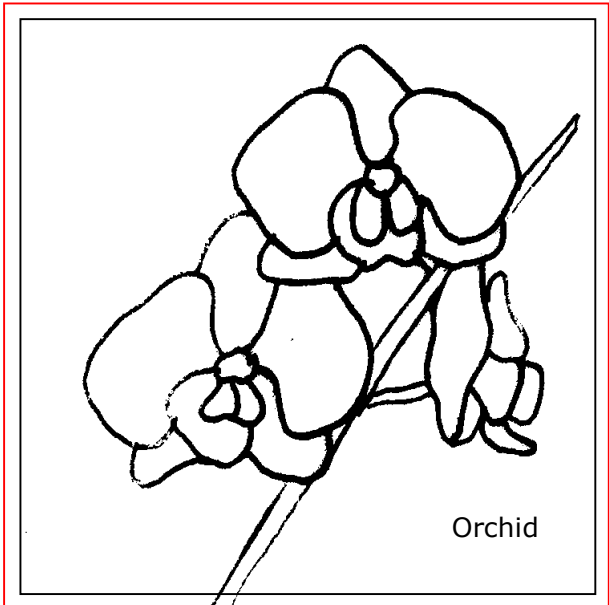
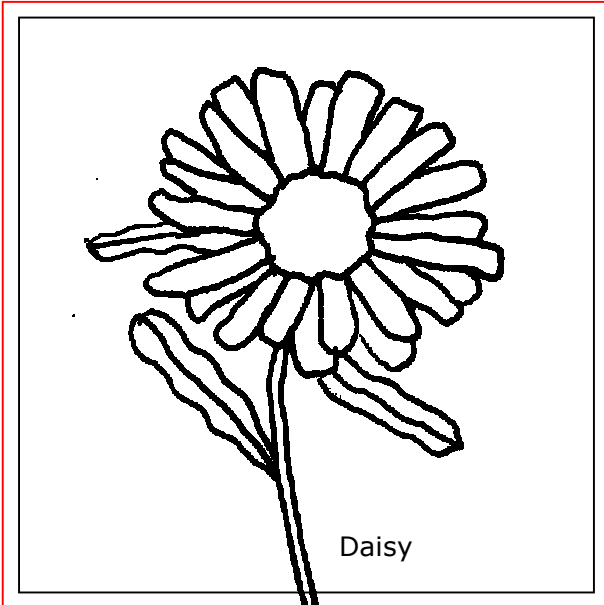
The Marquetry Society
www.marquetry.org

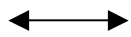
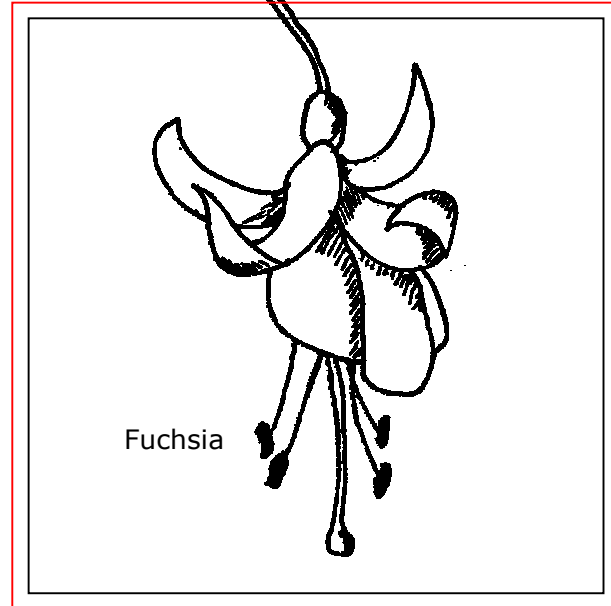
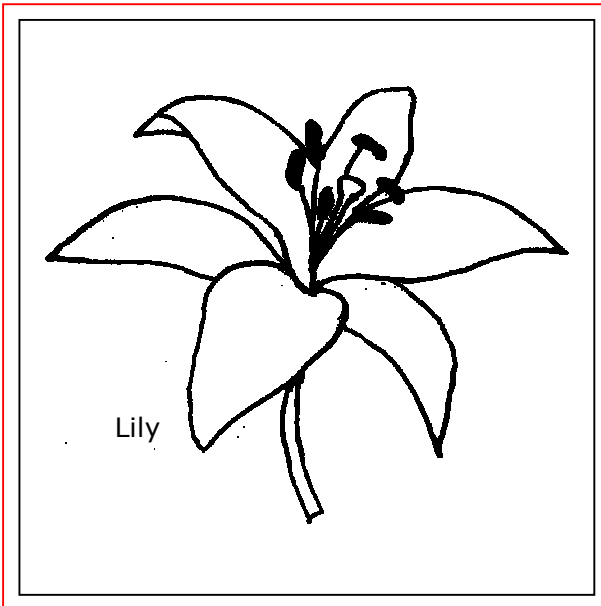
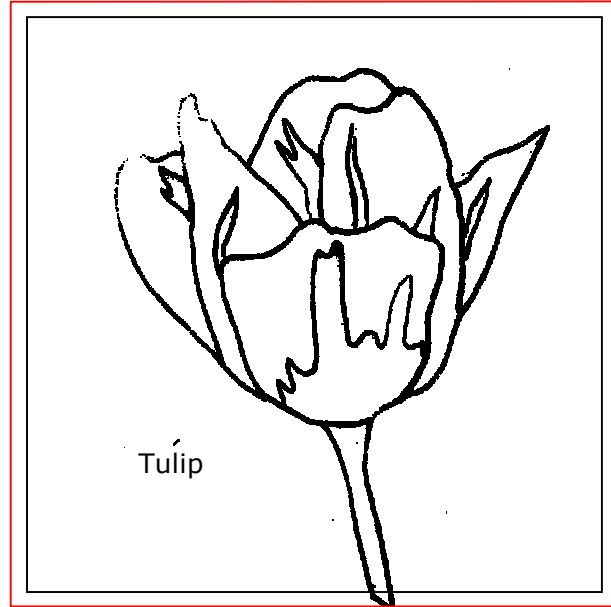
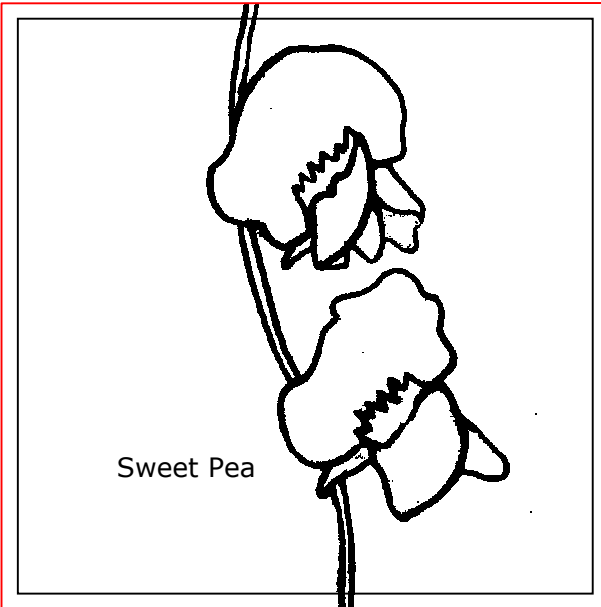


Size of coaster
Approx 100x100 mm

Visible area of coaster
76x76 mm

Finished size of marquetry insert - 80x80 mm
This allows the maximum area for the coaster adhesive backing to stick.
Start with a backing piece larger than this while working and trim when completed.





Packing list

- Instructions
- Background pieces x 4
- Various colours & naturals
- Practice exercise
- Coasters x 4
- Carbon paper
- Adhesive vinyl backing
- Marquetry Society leaflet

