



A-11 The Folded Aura

This is the easiest design possible. Take 2 leaves of equal width connected at the bottom and fold one over the other at 90° angles. Continue to fold one over the other holding the folds tightly with the left thumb. If it gets too large to hold, leave some go and keep holding the new folds as you make

them.

You can use the aura to encircle a bouquet of other palm designs. It can be made into a kind of crown to be placed on a crucifix, made into a heart-shape and decorated and, if made small enough, can be used as a border for pictures. In bouquets it can hang loosely in a cascade effect.



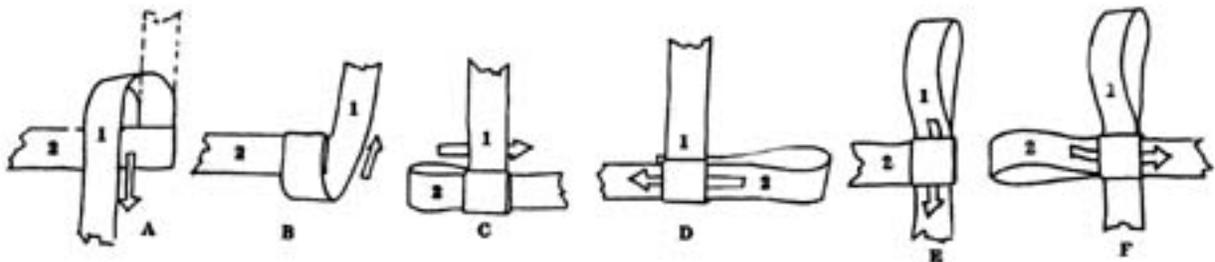
The Square Cross

1. Cut 2 strands of palm about 1/2" x 14". Place the ends of the 2 strips together to form a right angle. Bend #1 down and around the back to make a loop around #2.

2. Fold #2 behind and bring it through the loop in front.

3. Bring #1 through the top of the loop to create the top of the cross. Loop #2 through the same side in the same manner to create the left side of the cross.

4. Tuck the loose ends of #1 and #2 into the center to finish the bottom and right side of the cross.

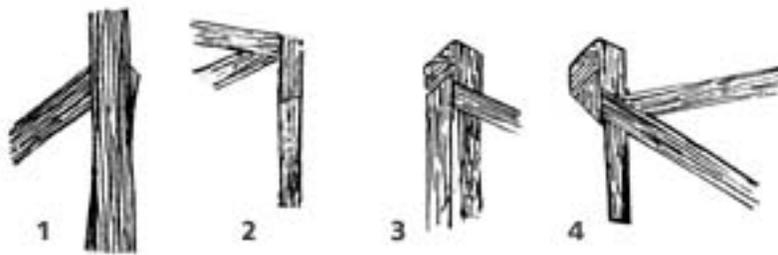




A-12 The Circular Folded Rose

You need 2 tapered leaves of equal length connected at the bottom. The rose will have a center only if the palm leaf is tapered and becomes smaller as you fold. The width of the palm can be up to 1/2" at the base.

Beginning at about 2" from the base, fold one leaf back, slanting 45° to the left (1), fold the other leaf back, again at a 45° angle under it (2), fold the first under again continuing in a counter-clockwise motion, bringing the "rose" as it is now appearing, over the front of the stem (3). Since the palm is tapered, the rose begins to become smaller as you continue. When you feel you have a nice rose, secure the center with a pin or inserting the ends into the weave. You can either trim the ends, or let ends spin off. The center of the rose can be decorated with sequins, a tiny ribbon, or just a knot. It does not need to be decorated if done well. Roses look nice alone or in a bouquet of roses. A palm rose bouquet is welcome as a gift to the person who has everything money can buy! If hung on the wall, the roses can open and hang down, forming a nice spiral. Some leave the folds tufted, not pulled tight, for a rounded effect.



Roses can also be made into a circle with tape or by stapling; they can be placed next to each other on a cardboard cross. Tiny roses can be made into corsages. Give a corsage or bouquet of blest roses to a family who has lost a loved one. Make the number of roses you place in the bouquet significant. Perhaps you can have 7 roses for the years of a child's life.



C-1 The Square Cone

Take a palm which has 4 strands or make 4 strands by slitting palm pieces, stapling palm together if they are not already

joined at the base. Your width of palm will determine how large your piece will be.

If you have very long pieces of palm you might consider cutting them in half and using the tapered end for your cone since a tapered leaf makes a nicely shaped piece.

Take 4 strands connected at the bottom. Begin by bending one strand away from you (pointing north), another strand over this and pointing to your left (pointing west), another strand over this toward you (pointing south). The last strand will point to your right and be placed over the 3rd and under the 1st (pointing east). Thus you have a strand going in each direction and are ready to weave.

Pull the braid tight and continue to fold the strands in 4 directions, weaving the 4th strand under the 1st. The children chant, "1, 2, 3, weave". You will braid clockwise then counter-clockwise, beginning with any strand. To speed up the process, try to have only one weaving leaf and trim the end for easy weaving. Otherwise all 4 ends need to be trimmed. Watch that your weaving is even and the tightness of the weave is consistent for nice looking piece.

Finish by putting a pin in to secure the tightness. Remove the pin when dry. One can simply trim the ends or leave them curl on their own. Others pull the ends together and tie them; others tuck in the ends. A highly artistic look can be achieved by making a loop with the ends and passing some loops of thin strands of palm into the loop. The cone then has a "bow" at the top.

