

Happy Mother's Day Gift

By Liz Milligan



This recipe is perfect if you're looking for a cute Valentines arrangement that is simple to make and easy for your customers to collect. The basic instructions give you a great base to then experiment with extra touches, such as the monkeys holding a personalised foil balloon.

Materials:

- 1 deco bubble Mothers Day
- 8 x 11" mint green
- 8 x 5" pink
- 2 x link yellow
- 2 x 260 purple reflex/chrome/glossy
- Water or sand weight
- 1 x 260 pink
- 2 x 160 yellow
- Scrap of 260
- Balloon bond or Uglu dashes

Techniques:

- Clusters
- Pinch twist (look in Techniques section of the Nabas Recipe page to see how)
- Loop twist



How to make your Mother's Day Decor

1. Using 11" latex, sized to 9" make 2 duplets.
2. Tie duplets into a cluster.
3. Using 11" latex, sized to 7" make 2 duplets.
4. Tie duplets into a cluster.
5. Sit 7" cluster on top of 9" cluster and nestle the cluster so that it sits snugly on the cluster below.
6. Pull 2 necks from bottom cluster through either side of the top cluster, to the middle, pushing centre of cluster down so that it is tight to the bottom cluster and tie in a knot to secure both clusters together.
7. Attach sand/water weight to the bottom of the 9" cluster, bringing the neck of the weight through the centre of the clusters and tying to a neck of the top cluster
8. Inflate link balloon to 11" and tie tightly to the top cluster.
9. Inflate a second link balloon and tie into the top of the other link balloon, (making sure to wrap the neck around the tip twice and tie tight).
10. Inflate 5" latex sized to 3.5" make 2 duplets.
11. Make a cluster.

12. Wrap the cluster around the middle where the two link balloons are attached, it is important to twist well so the link balloons sit well.
13. Inflate the deco bubble until there are no creases.
14. Roll the neck of the bubble with a scrap of 260 and tie off.
15. Tie the deco bubble onto the top link balloon, tightly.
16. Make another 5" cluster as step 10.
17. Wrap the cluster around the join of the bubble and the link balloon tightly to make stable.

String of Pearls

18. Inflate 260 reflex/chrome/glossy with two pumps of hand pump.
19. Let out a small amount of air to soften the balloon.
20. Twist a two-finger bubble and hold this between your fingers at all times to stop it unravelling.
21. Squeeze the balloon to soften and continue to make two-finger bubbles until the end of the 260 will allow. Ensure you always twist the balloon in the same direction.
22. Without letting go of the other end of the 'String of Pearls', tie the end of the balloon you have been holding between your fingers into the neck of the cluster beneath the deco bubble.
23. Wrap around the side of the bubble to the top.
24. Secure to the top of bubble 260 with balloon bond/uglu dash.
25. Make another "String of Pearls" and repeat on the other side of the bubble.
26. Secure a bubble, with balloon bond/uglu dash, to the middle of the bubble on both sides.

Butterfly

27. Inflate 260 with five hand pumps (you may need to adjust depending on how you twist balloons). Remember to let a little air out to soften the balloon.
28. Twist a 1.5 finger bubble and make a pinch twist.
29. Repeat to make a second pinch twist.
30. Using the Pink 260 make a 2-finger loop, then another the same size, twist the two loop twists together into the pinch twists to lock in place. You are starting to make the wing.
31. Make another two loops about four fingers this time and repeat as above but twisting into the other side of the pinch twists.
32. Tie off the end of the 260.
33. The pinch twists should be positioned between the two sizes of loops, with one on each side of the loops. This is the basic butterfly.
34. Inflate the 160 leaving about 4 fingers of a tail at the end, soften the balloon and tie
35. Wrap the knot end of the 160 around the 260 pinch twist several times to secure.
36. Squeeze the balloon to soften it and wrap around the one of the small loops, following the shape.
37. Wrap the 160 once around the pinch twist, turning the balloon as you do this to stop it popping.
38. Repeat around each of the loops, cut the end of the 160 without letting the air out and wrap in a figure of eight around the pinch twists.
39. Inflate the 160 to half length, soften and tie.
40. Make a two fingered pinch twist.
41. Repeat and make a second pinch twist.
42. Nestle the pinch twists on top of the middle of the two larger pink loops.

43. Wrap the rest of the 160 around the pink butterfly.
44. Bring it around the other side and wrap into the pinch twist, at the top.
45. This will form the body, make sure it is nice and tight, without putting too much pressure on the balloons.
46. Position the pinch twists so they can be seen separately from the front and back of the butterfly.
47. Cut off the excess 160.
48. Stretch this scrap a few times at the very tip of the balloon.
49. Inflate a little and push the air to the end to make a small bubble
50. Find the centre of the 160 and inflate the other end to make a small bubble, ensuring they are equal sizes (to make the antenna).
51. Tie of the end tightly and cut close to the knot to tidy the mechanics.
52. Twist around the pinch twist twice to secure.
53. Secure the base of the butterfly on to the top of the deco bubble, between the string of pearls with balloon bond/uglu dash

Although this design is a Mother's Day display, it is versatile to make for other occasions, simply by changing the colours, the deco bubble and the amount of link balloons used for the height.



Job Cost

Materials	Quantity	Unit Cost	Total Cost
Deco Bubble	1	£3.00	£3.00
11" latex	8	£0.11	£0.88
5" latex	8	£0.05	£0.40
260 latex	3	£0.05	£0.15
260 reflex or similar	2	0.15	£0.30
160 latex	2	0.04	£0.08
Link latex	2	£0.15	£0.30
Sand weight	1	£0.15	£0.15
Uglu dash	5	£0.04	£0.20
Labour (£15 per hour)	40 mins	0.25 pm	£10.00

Direct Costs £15.46

$$£15.46 / 0.45 = £34.36 \text{ plus delivery}$$

Selling Price - Direct Costs after VAT = Gross Profit

$$£34.36 - £15.46 = £18.90$$

This is display where you can add more for perceived value.