

# CREPE PAPER POPPIES

## **Materials**

- Poppy template
- Black or yellow crepe streamers (one square & two 6-inch strips)
- Colored crepe paper (cut into a strip 4 x 20 inches)
- 1 safety swab
- Floral wire (18 – 20 gauge)
- Self-adhesive floral tape
- Scissors
- Glue

## **Stamen**

1. Cut off the end of a safety swab and slide it over a length of floral wire; adhere the swab to the wire with floral tape.
2. Place a square of yellow or black crepe paper streamer over the swab and gather at the bottom; adhere with floral tape.
3. Layer two 6-inch strips of crepe paper streamer and cut slits along the length of it, about  $\frac{3}{4}$  deep. Put a little glue at the edge of the strip, roll it around the stem, just under the crepe paper wrapped swab. Secure the ends with more glue. Wrap with floral tape.

## **Petals**

1. Take a strip of crepe paper (4 x 20 inches) and accordion fold it along the length, so that there are 4 layers. Place the poppy petal template over the crepe paper and cut around it. (Make sure that the crinkles in the paper run from top to bottom of your petal.)
2. Separate the petals and flute the top edge by stretching the crepe paper along that edge. Stretch the crepe paper in the middle of the petal so that it forms a slight cup.
3. Loosely accordion fold the petal and squeeze it to create a wrinkled petal (which is more like a natural petal looks as it springs from the pod).
4. Put glue along the bottom edge of the first petal and adhere it under the stamen, wrapping it around so that it covers half of the stamen. Glue the second petal to the opposite side, wrapping it around so that both petals meet.
5. Glue the third and fourth petals on the opposite sides, over the seams where the first two petals meet. Wrap the bottom of the flower and the entire length of the floral wire with floral tape.

