

Supplies Needed

- 4 cups Hibiscus flowers dried
- 1/2 cup rose leaves dried
- 1/2 cup rose hips
- 1/2 cup oak moss
- 1 tsp cloves
- 1/2 cup baby pink rose buds dried
- 2 tbsp Orris Root
- Rose Fragrance Oil

Great place to get these items is from the
SFHerbCompany on line

A Time For Primitives
www.atimeforprimitives.com

Making Potpourri

By
A Time For Primitives



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We are going to make a wonderful Spring Potpourri.
If you are lucky enough to have the ingredients on hand then you can get right to it. If not you can purchase most of these ingredients from the SF Herb Co. on line.

Supplies needed:
4 cups of hibiscus flowers, dried
½ cup of rose hips
1/2 cups of rose leaves, dried
½ cup oak moss
1 tsp. cloves, whole
½ cup baby pink rose buds, dried
2 Tbsp Orris Root
Rose Fragrance Oil
Container to display in
The Carolina Weaver.com for baskets

Since Biblical Times people have been making scented oils. Even early Greeks and Romans were known for using scents. Trade and travel though out the world brought all of us the ability to make scents to use as perfume, lotion, oil etc.

There are only a few steps to making potpourri.
Collect your dry ingredients, combine them, mix them together with the fragrance oil, seal them in a jar and put them in a cool dry place. Then remember to stir them daily or so.

The rule of thumb to use when scenting is to use 12 to 15 drops of fragrance oil to 1 Tbsp. Orris root per 1 cup of dried ingredients.

Display in a non-metal dish. The metal alters the fragrance of the oil and if you are using essential oil it tends to alter the color of the metal. Using baskets without a barrier on the bottom of them is not a good idea as some of the oil can leak out. You can line the bottom with a little plastic wrap and a tightly woven material over that. The material will add a little personalized element to your mixture.

Some ways to add some sparkle to your potpourri would be to add some beads, sequins, little bits of ribbon or even some small toys. You can personalize your mixture in so many unique and fun ways.

When taking walks gather pine cones, pods and acorns. To scent your living room try applying essential oil to a pretty basket of pinecones that you gathered on your walk. At Christmas add some decorator berries or decorator red apples for a festive look.

When gathering Flowers you can dry them hanging upside down over your kitchen window or your craft room. That way you can keep an eye on them as they dry and they add a great look to any room.

Always store any left over botanicals and fruits in separate sealed plastic bags. Seal them with a food saver if you have one. Keep them separate because they will mingle fragrances if you don't. Put them in separate boxes of drying materials and label the box. Don't mix the materials in the boxes they dry at different rates and their aromas can mix.

Other ways of using potpourri that we like:

At the SF Herb Com. They sell large tea bags with an open end. We like to stuff these with our potpourri mixture, but we leave out the orris root and use salt in it instead (salt softens bath water). Then just iron the open end of the tea bag shut. You can tie three together with a shabby chic ribbon or a prim one and put them in a box, add a bottle of handmade lotion, a bar of handmade soap and a hand poured jar candle and you have a wonderful personal gift for the bath.

The Carolina Weaver makes great tea bag holder baskets. We like to line up our tea bags in these baskets. We wrap the basket in a see through wrapping paper tie a bow on it and it makes a wonderful gift. One someone will get a lot of use out of at the end of a long day.

Be sure to always put a note with the gift on how to use the tea bag and that it is for their bath and not to drink.

Always give a list of ingredients especially when dealing with botanicals. Some people may be allergic to a certain ingredient and better to know if it is in there in advance than after the fact. Always tell them that they should not leave unattended around pets or small children.

Hope you found this fun and informative.

From Everyone at
A Time for Primitives.com

