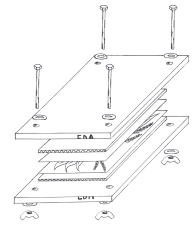




Flower Press 8.5" x 11"

Create an herbarium



OBJECTIVE	CATEGORY	DIFFICULTY	GROUP SIZE
Construct a flowerpress that can be used to start an herbarium. Herbariums are a systematically arranged collection of plants. Herbariums are often used to catalogue plant specimens and record data over time.	Gardening, Art	Easy - med	1-2 people

Tools and materials listed **make one flower press** that can be reused with the addition of more blotter paper

MATERIAL LIST		TOOLS & EQUIPMENT			
2-4 pc.	blotter paper (8.5" x 11")	4	Bolts - 1/4"-20 at 3" long	1	Pc sandpaper - 150 grit
2 pc.	3/4" Plywood (8.75" l x 11.5" w)	8	1/4" Washers	1	Pencil, marker
2-6 pc.	Corrugated cardboard (8" x 11")	4	1/4"-20 Wing nuts	1	Combination Square/Measuring Tape
5-10 pc.	Plant specimens: leaf, root, flower, seed	1	Drill and 5/16" Drill bit	1	Scissors or mat knife
		1	6" Clamp (optional)	1	Hand saw

HOW TO

1. Use a pencil to mark one piece of plywood with a "+" on each of the 4 corners - measure a 1/2" in from each edge. Stack and align both pieces of plywood and clamp or secure them together.
2. Drill holes, one in each corner on the "+" through both pieces of plywood at once. Sand to remove splinters. Mark your initials on one edge of one side of each piece of plywood as a reference so the two pieces of plywood will always align.
3. Measure and cut cardboard to 8.5" x 11". Remove corners of both cardboard and paper so that they don't interfere with the bolts.
4. Harvest plant specimens.
5. Flatten plant parts and carefully arrange plant specimens on one sheet of blotter paper, cutting them down to fit within paper if needed. Place a second sheet of blotter paper over the first with the plant specimens sandwiched in between.
6. Sandwich cardboard over paper and place in between plywood pieces.
7. Make sure that the plywood boards are aligned using the initials written on the side. Add one washer over the shank of each bolt. Run these bolts through all four corners. Place four more washers, one on each bolt, and then add and tighten the wingnuts finger tight to press the plants. (See diagram below for bolt, washer, wingnut placement)
8. Allow the specimens dry for a few days - a few weeks before removing. Be gentle as you remove, the plant will be delicate.
9. Use and reuse for artwork or herbarium.

FUN FACT!

Did you know that Darwin had an herbarium on his ship the "Beagle", and that NYBG has this herbarium in their collection?

