

# Pressed Flower Bookmarks

Let's capture the beauty of nature in a keepsake you can use every day—pressed flower bookmarks! This craft is a perfect way to preserve the colors and shapes of your favorite flowers while creating something lovely and functional. Whether it's a gift for a loved one or a special treat for your own books, these delicate, nature-inspired bookmarks will brighten up any reading experience!



## Materials List:

- **Pressed flowers and leaves** (collected and pressed ahead of time)
- **Cardstock or thick paper** (cut into bookmark size, about 2 x 6 inches)
- **Clear contact paper or laminating sheets** (to protect your flowers)
- **Scissors** (for trimming the paper and laminating sheets)
- **Glue stick** (for securing flowers in place before laminating)
- **Hole punch** (for adding a ribbon to your bookmark)
- **Colorful ribbon or twine** (for a decorative touch at the top)
- **Markers, stickers, or paint pens** (optional for personalizing your bookmark)

## **Instructions:**

1. **Collect and Press Flowers:** Start by gathering small, flat flowers and leaves. Lay them between the pages of a heavy book or use a flower press. Leave them for at least a week so they're fully dry and pressed flat.
2. **Prepare Your Bookmark Base:** Cut your cardstock or thick paper into a rectangle, about 2 x 6 inches—this will be your bookmark base. Feel free to make it a little longer or wider if you prefer a different size.
3. **Arrange Your Flowers:** Lay out your pressed flowers and leaves on the cardstock. Play around with different arrangements until you find the design you like best. You can make it simple with just one flower or create a whole floral pattern!
4. **Glue the Flowers in Place:** Once you're happy with the arrangement, use a glue stick to lightly secure the flowers and leaves onto the cardstock. Be gentle to avoid tearing the delicate petals.
5. **Seal with Contact Paper or Lamination:** Carefully cut a piece of clear contact paper or use a laminating sheet to cover your bookmark. This will protect your pressed flowers and keep them from getting damaged. Smooth it out to remove any air bubbles.
6. **Trim the Edges:** If needed, trim the excess contact paper or laminate around the edges of your bookmark, so it looks neat and tidy.
7. **Add a Ribbon:** Use a hole punch to create a hole at the top of your bookmark. Thread a colorful ribbon or twine through the hole and tie it off. This adds a fun, decorative touch to your bookmark!
8. **Personalize It:** If you want to make your bookmark extra special, use markers, stickers, or paint pens to write your name, add a favorite quote, or draw designs on the cardstock before sealing.

### **Craft Bonus: Add Some Flair!**

Want to make your bookmark even more special? Try using metallic markers to add a shimmering border around the edges or incorporate tiny pressed ferns for a delicate touch. You could also layer translucent paper over your pressed flowers for a dreamy, frosted effect. For a personal gift, write a heartfelt message on the back of the bookmark before sealing it!