



TSUMAMI ZAIKU TUTORIAL

by

Wisteria Gardens



What is tsumami kanzashi?

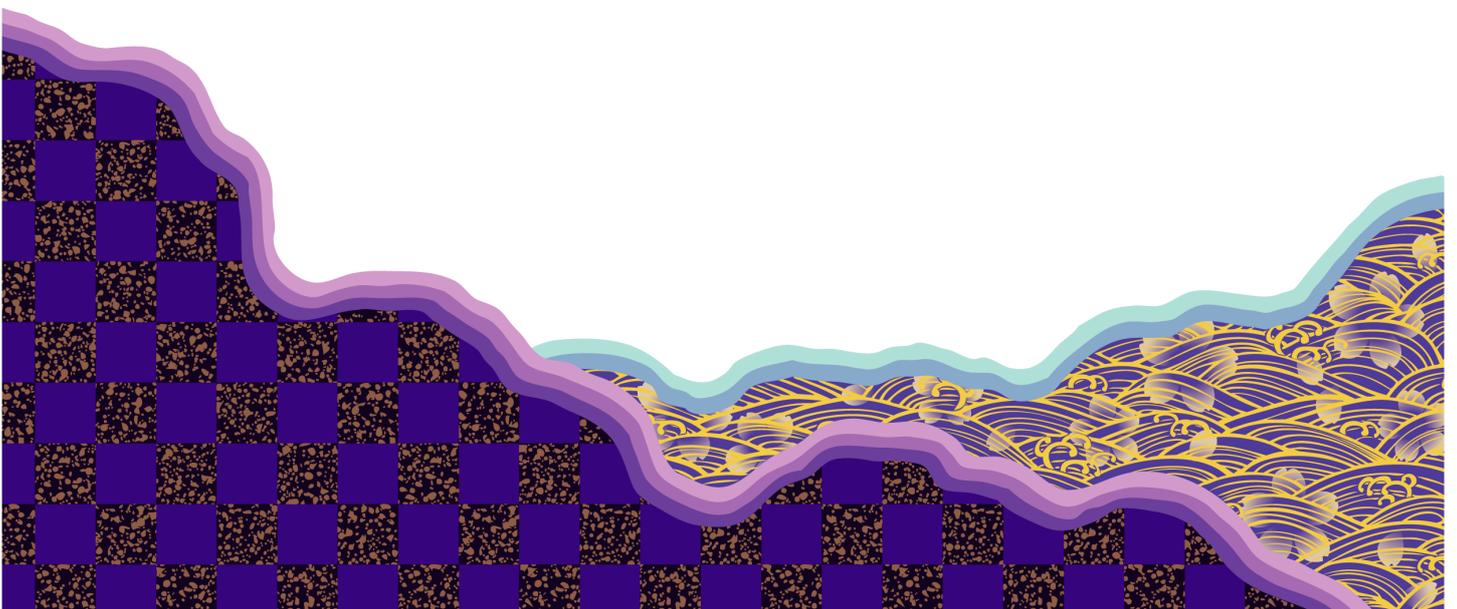
Tsumami kanzashi is the traditional art of Japan.

It includes a semi-origami technique of folding small silk squares into petals and assembling multiple petals into lovely fabric flowers.

Wisteria Gardens has been making these for nearly a decade now, and today I will be happy and proud to present to you a fun and easy way to make your own fabric flowers.

The method is simplified to make it work without silk and rice glue, so it is easy and enjoyable. Also, the materials won't be a problem to acquire in any crafts shop or even—at your own house.

Enjoy the tutorial!



I. Materials and tools

You will need a number of tools and materials to start. Most can be found in your own home and will not be a problem to acquire.

You will need:

Scissors

Tweezers

A piece of thick felt or cardstock

Textile glue

Two colors of cotton

Embellishments (for example a big rhinestone or half-pearl)

Jewelry glue or hot glue gun

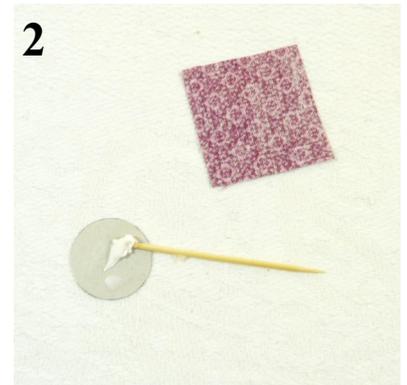
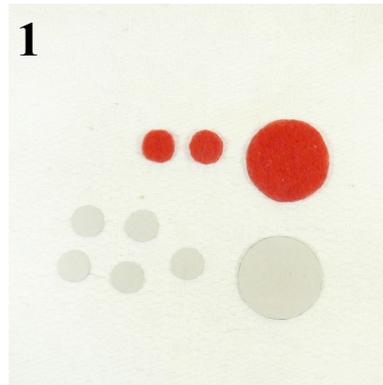


II. Preparing the base

You usually make a base the size of your fabric squares or about 0.5cm smaller. For example, here we are going to use 3cm fabric pieces, so the base is going to be either 3cm or 2.5cm. 3cm will be easier to fit and handle, while 2.5cm will make it less visible and neater.

IA - Felt

1 - Cut out one big circle and two or three smaller ones. Glue the smaller ones in the middle of the large one, on top of each other. Base ready!



IIB - Cardboard and fabric

1 - Cut out one bigger circle and at least 5-6 smaller ones

2 - Cut out a piece of fabric big enough to cover the big circle and at least an extra centimeter or so of fabric. Glue the circle onto the middle of the fabric.

3 - Cut the fabric into a rough circle and glue the cardboard circle.

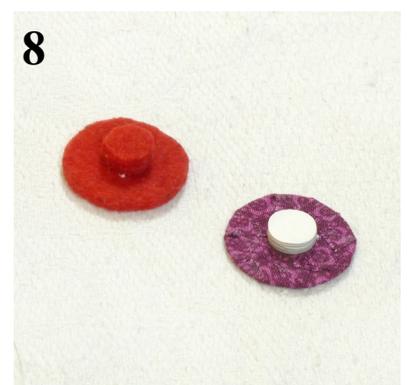
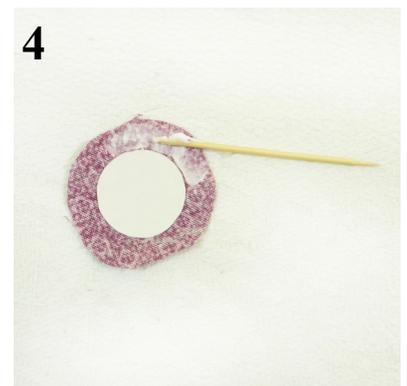
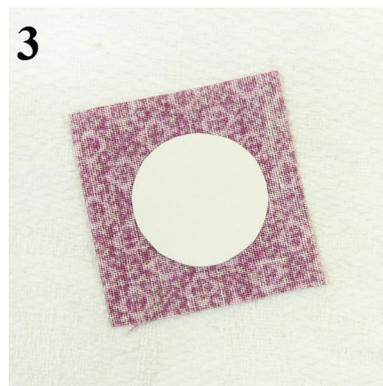
4 - Cut the fabric radially around. Put some glue on the fabric

5 - Start covering the cardboard with the fabric. Pull tight over the cardboard

6 - Let it dry.

7 - In the meantime glue the smaller circles, so they stack on each other. After the glue dries, glue the circles in the middle of the fabric-covered circle.

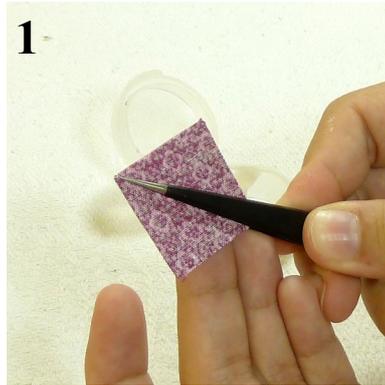
8 - You are done!



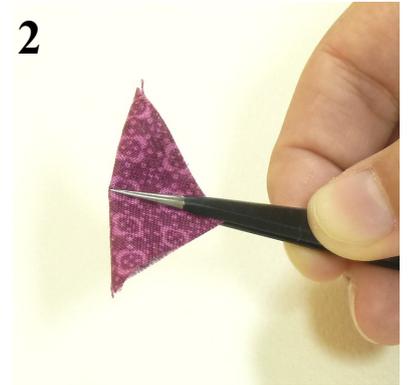
II. Round petals

Cut 3x3cm pieces of fabric, six of one color (for flower petals) and two more for leaves.

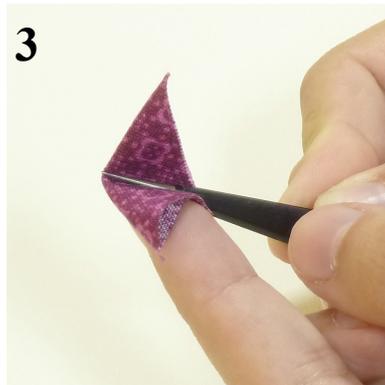
1 - Take one piece of fabric and hold it with your tweezers. Fold it in half diagonally, good side up to form a smaller triangle.



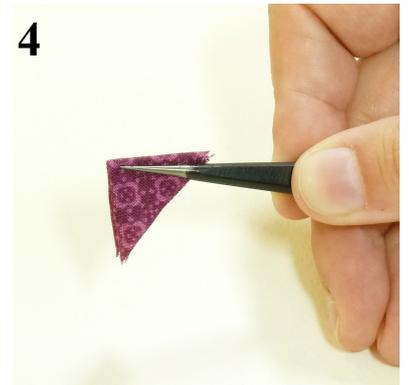
2 - Hold it again, along the altitude.



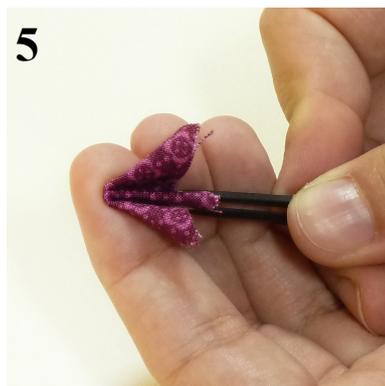
3 - Fold it again.



4 - Grab the fabric along the 'spine', or the portion of the fabric that forms the closed edge of the triangle now



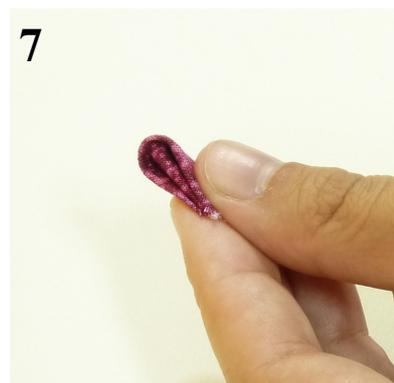
5 - Start folding the fabric over the tweezers, from below, with your finger.



6 - Hold the petal in your fingers and gently slide the tweezers out.



7- There's the finished petal.
Time to set its shape.



II. Round petals

TIP: It's usually handy to have the glue ready in a separate small container. I put some glue into a cosmetic sample tray.

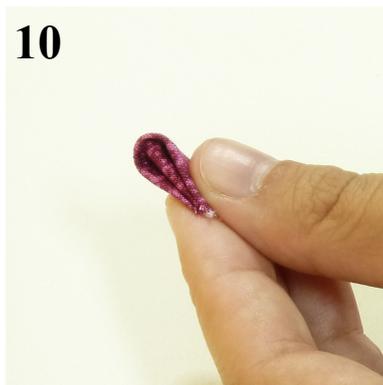
8 - Dip the edge of the petal in a small amount of glue. Don't overdo with the glue, as you only need enough to let the petal hold shape.



9 - Hold the petal with tweezers to wipe out any excess glue.



10 - Hold the petal with your fingers, squeezing gently till the glue sets.



11 - Shape the petal by giving it a slight push or tap - it's best done before the glue sets completely



12 - Cut the frays and excess fabric from the bottom edge after the glue sets



13 - Give it another tap or two. The idea behind it is to make it slightly wider so it cover more of the base, which won't be visible. We'll get to that later.



14 - Make six of them.



III. Pointed Petals

Pointed petals are really easy! Just fold the square three times. But just to be sure - see the steps

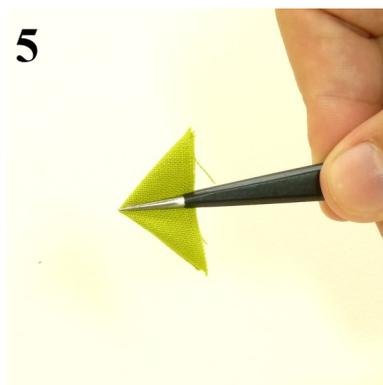
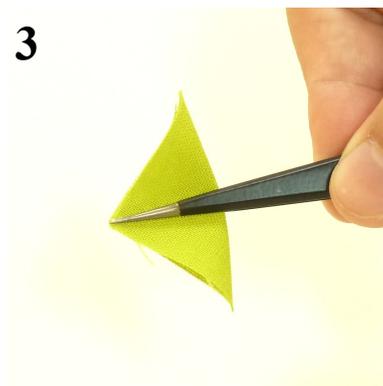
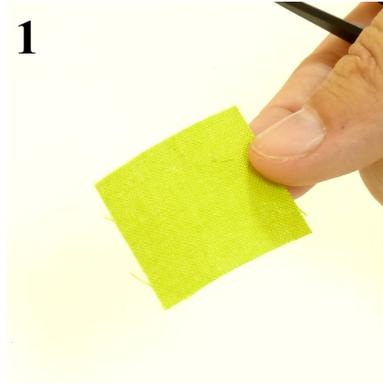
1 - Take the square and fold it diagonally in half (pic. 2)

3- Hold the formed triangle along its altitude and fold it again in half (pic. 4)

5 - Again, hold the triangle with tweezers and again fold it in half (pic. 6)

7 - Slide the tweezers out, hold the folded petal and dab the cut edge in glue. Wipe away any excess glue and hold until the glue dries.

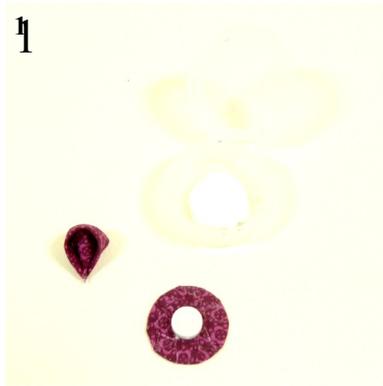
8 - Make two



IV. Assembling the flower

Pointed petals are really easy! Just fold the square three times. But just to be sure - see the steps

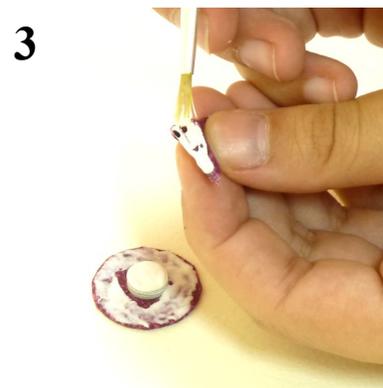
1 - Take the Base, the folded and glued petals the the glue tray (hardly visible - all my glue trays are white)



2 - Cover the base with glue. Don't overdo it, but a generous amount is recommended otherwise the petal won't hold



3 - Add glue on the raw edge of the petal.



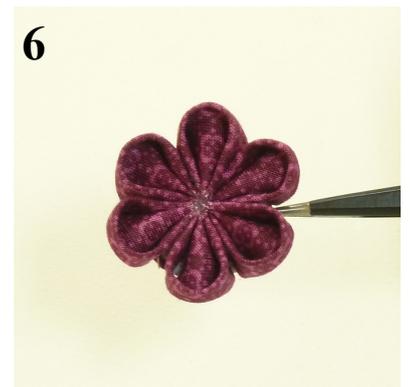
4 - Gently place the petal tip towards the elevated center of the base, placing the tip on the cardboard circles



5 - Place three petals and with the tweezers adjust them, so they cover half of the base, making space for three others



6 - Almost finished flower



7 - If the petals don't cover the whole of the base, poke them gently, and push them slightly with your fingers towards the centre, making them wider.



8 - Petals fit and cover the whole. Onwards to the leaves!



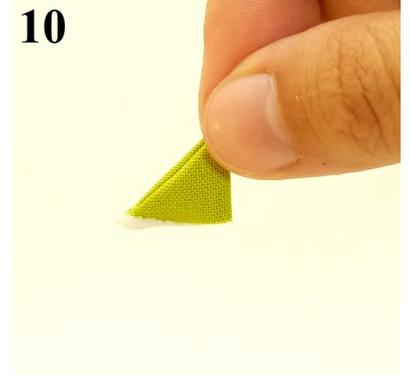
Assembling the flower

TIP: You can put the pointed petals also in between the round petals, if you find that there are gaps between them. Putting five smaller pointed petals in between the round ones gives an interesting effect

9 - Look at the flower—there are gaps under the round petals.



10 - Dip the tip of the pointed petal in glue. Quite a lot of it.



11 - Slide the petal under the petal, and repeat with the second pointed petal



12 - Now the flower needs some embellishment. We will need hot glue or jewelry glue here



13 - Prepare your chosen embellishment. Put a small dab of glue in the center, and simply glue the embellishment.



14 - Time to glue on the brooch back. It's enough to put a generous amount of glue on it as well as the back of the flower (just make sure to put it on neatly, so it doesn't show from underneath the plate)



15 - Leave to dry for a few hours



16 - Your ready flower! Enjoy!



Hope you enjoyed this tutorial for the tsumami zaiku
flower!

The tutorial was brought to you by Wisteria Gardens
Studio.

www.wisteriagardens.eu



Have questions? Check out my FB site - @wisteriagardensstudio

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