

## Corn Husk Poinsettia

### Supplies:

- 5 to 6 corn husks (how big your petals are will determine how many husks you need)
- Scissors
- Pencil
- String
- Ruler
- 2 cups (1 optional)
- Food coloring (optional)

\*See accompanying how to video at [nmhistoricsites.org/traditions/dec-14](http://nmhistoricsites.org/traditions/dec-14).



1. Remove corn husks from purchased packaging. The corn husks may be too dry to properly handle. If they are, place husks in water to be softened prior to cutting.
2. Using your pencil, draw 18 petals of various sizes on the corn husks. Cut them out and set each aside.
3. Using the leftover husks, cut 4 thin strips about  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch wide but the entire length of the husk. These will be for the center of your flower.
4. Tie each of those four strips of corn husk into a knot. Make sure the knot is in the center that you have four knotted strips of corn husk.
5. Combine the four knotted pieces and tie them together using string at the base of knots.
6. Start forming the flower by arranging the petals around the four knotted pieces until you have your desired arrangement.
7. Tie all of the pieces together with some string near the base where all the petals meet.
8. Place your cornhusk poinsettia where it can be enjoyed by all!

**Tip:** If your corn husks begin to harden once again and start to crack, wet them a little so they can loosen up.

**Tip:** If the petals are not staying in place with the string, you can add a small dab of glue and apply some pressure on the spot.

**Optional Colored Poinsettia:** If you want to make a colorful poinsettia, soak the husks overnight in a bowl or cup of water dyed with food coloring of your choice. Note: The dye may stain so be careful and wear gloves!