

Introductory

Course

In the Art

Of

Pastillage

By

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# Basic Recipe

## PASTILLAGE

20 gms Lemon juice (strained)  
2½ sheets leaf gelatine (previously soaked in Cold Water)  
500 gms sieved icing sugar  
Spot blue colour (if white required)

## METHOD

Warm the lemon juice and add the pre-soaked gelatine sheets until dissolved, add a spot of blue colour and pour onto icing sugar preferably in a mixing bowl with a paddle at low speed.

## WATCH POINTS

If pastillage is too soft stiffen with more icing sugar. If pastillage is too tight and crumbly correct with the addition of warm lemon juice or water.

## Storage

The Pastillage should be placed immediately into a Plastic Bag and wrapped in a Damp Cloth to prevent Skinning.

## MODELLING WITH PASTILLAGE

Because of the speed of skinning of the paste, it is not the easiest of mediums to use. Speed is essential and any devices for quicker handling should be used. The use of prepared templates made of cardboard, which can then be laid on the pinned out pastillage and quickly cut around, or cutters, guides etc. is advocated. The cutting of pastillage is not easy, as it tends to drag. A chopping action is recommended as similar to a guillotine using a French cook's knife.

The handling of large pieces during the drying period requires care, particularly at the early stages of drying. They must be supported while reversing them or there is a great likelihood that they will crack.

## Flower Paste

There are many excellent flower pastes on the market of which I prefer to use the Squires Kitchen (Sugar Florist Paste).  
I take 200gms of the flower paste and 200gms Regal Ice and combine with 20gms soft white fat (Trex) and work to a smooth paste. Keep covered in a plastic bag while using.

## Drawing of Templates to Produce Gazebo

Before you start drawing the plans for the Gazebo you will require the following –

- 1) Proper Graph Paper 1mm boxes
- 2) Sharp Pencil with sharpener and fine emery paper to keep sharp flat edge.
- 3) Eraser
- 4) Ruler
- 5) Set of Compasses
- 6) Flat Card preferably not white
- 7) Pritt Stick
- 8) Scalpel, Sharp Art or Stanley Knife
- 9) Cutting Board
- 10) Sleeve or folder to store drawings and templates as not to loose or damage.

To Draw the Templates for a Gazebo-

- 1) Find a suitable size pipe or half pipe (plastic Guttering), as the diameter i.e. the distance across the pipe from the outside edge to the outside edge will depict the size of your finished Gazebo.
- 2) Measure the diameter size and half set your compasses at this half size and draw a circle on your graph paper, (This circle will be the same diameter and radius of your pipe.
- 3) If a hexagon is required take your compasses set at the same distance as when drawing your circle and place the point of your compass on the circle and scribe a mark further up the circle, using the new scribe mark place the point of your compass and again scribe further up the circle, continue till you are all the way around the circle finishing perfectly on your start mark. (You will have 6 scribe marks).
- 4) Where each scribe mark cuts through the circle lay on your ruler and draw a straight line joining the next scribe mark with its predecessor until you have a six sided Hexagon (see Diagram).
- 5) Using a little pritt stick your hexagon onto a piece of coloured card and cut out using your ruler and scalpel, this is your first but most important template as if this is not accurate then there can be problems with the final assembly.
- 6) This first template forms the guide for both the side panels and the roof section.
- 7) To draw the template for the base extend your compasses by 12mm and draw another circle, mark as before and draw the lines to form a larger hexagon and cut as your base and second template.
- 8) To Draw the side panels firstly measure the length of one of the sides of your first hexagon template (each side should be the same). This size is the breadth of the side panels.
- 9) The side panels can be any height that you require but the breadth has to be exact.
- 10) The roof panels require the base to be the same breadth as the side panels and the length should be  $\frac{5}{6}$  of the diameter i.e.-

$$\text{Diameter } 132\text{mm divided by } 6 = 22\text{mm multiplied by } 5 = 110$$

The length of the roof section should be 110mm in length

### Further Information

To obtain an Octagon (8 sides) firstly draw a straight line down and the across your graph paper and where the cross meets place the point of your compass and draw your circle. Take your compass at the same setting and where the cross lines cut the circle scribe a mark above the circle on both sides, continue to do this until you have 4 crosses formed by your scribe lines around your circle. Using your ruler and a sharp pencil line up the scribed crosses going across the centre point of where the circle was drawn. This will divide the circle into 8 even sections. With your ruler and pencil go round and line in to form an Octagon (see Diagram).

Both the number of sides on both the hexagon 6 and the octagon 8 can be doubled to 12 and 16 respectively using the same technique of cross scribing and lining in through the centre although you will require a larger piece of graph paper.

**THE CUTTERS USED TO PRODUCE THE GAZEBO CAN BE  
OBTAINED FROM: -**

Mr Bob Cook  
Cookcraft  
14 Clarence Street  
Royton  
Oldham  
012 61r

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Bob [Cook1@hotmail.com](mailto:Cook1@hotmail.com)