

What do I need?

Small branches*

Pink and white tissue paper

Scissors

Twine

Glue

Vase

*Use 3 or more branches for a good blossom display.



tissue paper
almond blossom

What do I do?

Look at page 2 to find out about the Almond Blossom Festival in Tafraoute in Morocco.

To make your first blossom, cut two 5-6cm circles from your pink tissue paper and one 5-6cm circle from your white tissue paper.

Crumple the three tissue paper circles together so that the edges fan out around a little, cone-shaped base. It should look like a small pink flower. You can tie a short length of twine around the base to secure it in place, but this is optional.

Repeat this process to create more flowers. Try to make at least 10 flowers for each branch so that they are nicely covered in blossom.

Use glue to stick your paper flowers to the thinner ends of your branches so that they look like they are speckled with almond blossom. Use the picture at the top right of this page for guidance on how to make the arrangement of blossoms look natural.

Arrange your blossom branches in a nice vase and display it on a windowsill or table for everyone to enjoy!



Tafraoute Almond Blossom Festival

The Almond Blossom Festival in the small Amazigh town of Tafraoute in Morocco takes place each year around the second week in February. It celebrates the flowering of the almond tree - a sign that spring is here!

Originally a small celebration of the almond harvest, as Tafraoute is one of Morocco's largest producers of these nuts, it transformed into a big spring festival after so many visitors flocked to see the beautiful almond blossom displays.

The festival takes place within the town's Roman ruins which are illuminated at night with bright and colourful lights. Festivities include wonderful displays of traditional dance, storytelling and folklore, and sampling of lots of delicious foods. An important breakfast custom is to eat amlou - a mixture of ground almonds, argan oil and honey that is eaten with bread or Moroccan pancakes.



Images, clockwise from top right: the town of Tafraoute; almond fruits before the nuts are harvested; almond blossoms in spring.