

Onion Lotus

NEEDED: One large round, long onion
Red and yellow food colours

1. Remove the dry outer layer/s, keeping the top and bottom intact.
2. Starting at the top and keeping one finger on the bottom, cut the outer layer only in the shape of lotus petals, the number of petals depending on the size of the onion; 5-7 petals are normal.
3. Gently separate the petals from the next layer of the onion and discard the remaining portion at the top.
4. Continue to cut the petals through second and third layers, alternating the petal positions and gently separate each layer from the next one in.
5. Carefully remove the centre part of the onion by cutting off the top 2/3 of it.
6. Immerse in water for about 5 minutes.
7. Remove from water and apply yellow colour to the centre part of the onion and red colour to the edges of the petals.

8. After the colours are applied, immerse the onion lotus in water only for an instant to remove the extra colour.

- NOTES:**
1. Immersing the onion for about one minute in water before cutting will facilitate easy removal of the outer layer and at the same time avoid tears in the eyes and the smell of onion.
 2. Avoid onions which are split inside.
 3. Dilute red colour to get pink colour.

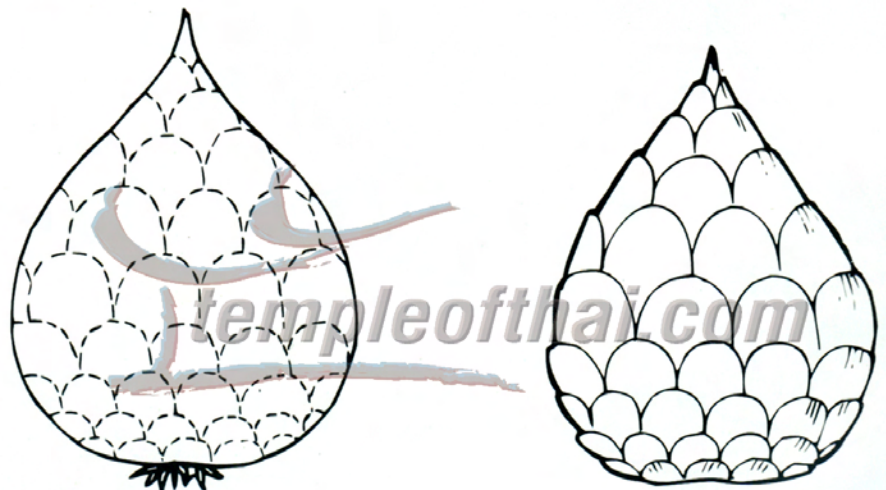


Onion Lotus Bud

NEEDED: One medium sized round onion
Red food colour

1. Remove the dry outer layer/s keeping the top and bottom intact.
2. Starting at the root end, cut small half-moon petals around the onion, close to the root and remove the remainder of the layer leaving only the shaped petals.
3. Alternating the position of the petals, cut the second group of petals on the second layer and again remove the remainder carefully.
4. Continue making petals as in step 3 layer after layer till the top is reached taking care to leave the top intact.
5. Immerse in water for about 2 minutes.

6. Apply the red colour around the cut portions and immerse in water once for just an instant to remove extra colouring.





Above : Moribana arrangement of an Onion Chrysanthemum 2 in the centre and two Onion Chrysanthemums 1 attached to real chrysanthemum stems together with dried palm fronds.

Right : Details of two onion Chrysanthemum 2. All have been dyed yellow to approximate the hues of a real chrysanthemum.

