

Traditional Air-Drying Method

1. Pour about 1" of silica gel crystals into the bottom of a resealable (airtight) container large enough to hold the flowers that you want to dry.
2. Gently place the flowers on the crystals, being careful not to let the flowers touch each other.
3. Slowly sprinkle more crystals over the flowers, working from the container edges inward until the flowers are completely covered. Gently shake the container from side to side to ensure crystals get into all the crevices.
4. Seal the container and leave in a cool, dry location.
5. After five days, carefully remove some of the crystals to expose a few flowers. If the flowers are not completely dry, re-cover them with the crystals, and let the container sit for another two days.
6. Once the flowers are completely dry, carefully remove them from the crystals.

Microwave Oven Method

1. Choose a suitably sized microwave-safe container, and follow steps 1, 2 and 3 from the *Traditional Air-Drying Method*.
2. Place the container, without a lid, into the microwave, along with a small glass of water.
3. Microwave on high for 1 to 2 minutes.
4. Carefully remove some of the crystals to expose some of the flowers. If not completely dry, re-cover the flowers with more crystals, and continue to microwave at 30-second intervals until the flowers are completely dry.
5. Once the flowers are completely dry, let the crystals cool, then carefully remove the flowers from the crystals.

Conventional Oven Method

1. Preheat a conventional oven to 150°F (65°C).
2. Choose a suitably sized oven-safe dish, and follow steps 1, 2 and 3 from the *Traditional Air-Drying Method*.
3. Place the dish, without lid, on the middle rack of the oven.
4. After 2 to 3 hours, carefully remove some of the crystals to expose some of the flowers. If the flowers are not completely dry, re-cover the flowers with more crystals and return the dish to the oven for another 1/2 hour, repeating as required until flowers are completely dried.
5. Once the flowers are completely dry, let the crystals cool, then carefully remove the flowers from the crystals.

The indicator crystals change color to let you know it is time to recharge the silica gel crystals.

To Recharge

1. Preheat a conventional oven to 250°F (120°C).
2. Pour the crystals into a shallow, oven-safe dish or tray (e.g., cookie sheet) to a maximum depth of 1".
3. Place the dish on the middle rack of the oven for about 30 minutes. When the crystals have returned to their original color, they are recharged and ready for your next project.



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