

## Preserved fall leaves



Preserved fall leaves last throughout the festive season shining and supple, and are a lovely addition to a table or used as hanging decoration. Make small bunches and place one for each guest or make larger bunches for hanging in home or facility.

### Materials:

- All kinds, sizes and colours of the beautiful autumn leaves.
- Liquid Glycerine (Chemists/Drug stores sell them in 100ml bottles)
- Water
- Rubber bands
- Ribbons
- A large shallow container.
- A smaller shallow container that fits snugly inside the large container (to press the leaves)

# Preserved fall leaves

## Instructions:

- Take a group of people to a park or even your backyard to gather colourful fall leaves in plastic bags.
- Choose leaves as flawless as possible.
- While doing this, reminisce about activities of childhood.

## Preserve the leaves:

- The solution is one part glycerine and 2 parts water.
- Mix solution well and place leaves inside large container.
- Place smaller container inside the large container so that the leaves are pressed and totally submerged.
- Place a heavy weight on top of small container.
- Leave solution with leaves for 3 days
- After 3 days check for suppleness and pliability. If still dry leave another day.
- Take leaves out when they are pliant.

## Assemble:

- Sit a group around a large table.
- Take leaves out of container and place them in the middle of the table within reach of all participants.
- Ask participants to pat dry each leaf and start gathering a small bunch.
- Assist them to secure a bunch together with a rubber band.
- Give each participant pretty ribbons to tie on top of the rubber band.
- Participants may wish to make more than one bunch to give to relatives, friends or staff.