

ILLINOIS 4-H

Cake Decorating Techniques by Level



The following pages are an at-a-glance list, by level, of techniques covered in *4-H Cake Decorating*. This list is not reflective of techniques used for cookie decorating.

Level 1

Coloring Techniques

- Basic color blending

Borders & Side Decorations

- Star
- Pullout star
- Shell with star tip
- Shell with writing tip (beads)
- Rosette
- Star puff
- “C” motion
- Zigzag
- Dots
- Leaf
- Rosette & star
- Leaf & drop flower
- Shell & flute

Leaves

- Plain leaf
- Stand up leaf
- Ruffled leaf
- Holly

Flowers

- Drop flowers, one squeeze star
- Drop flowers, swirl
- Free hand (star tip)
- Rosette
- Rosette with star center
- Star puffs
- Stars
- Variety (writing tip)
- Rosebud
- Sweet pea

Lettering

- Dots
- Lettering forms (fill in with dots or lines)
- Printing

Special Effects

- Combing
- Grass, fur or hair
- Outline & fill in
- Paper pattern
- Stencil applications
- Sugar mold (solid)

Level 2

Coloring Techniques

- Brush striping
- Spatula striping

Borders & Side Decorations

- Reverse shell
- Horizontal “C”
- Rope
- “S” scroll
- Plume
- “e” motion
- Ruffle
- Puff
- Zigzag puff
- Ribbon
- “S” scroll & drop flower
- Dot & heart
- Puff & drop flower
- Shell puff & ruffle or zigzag
- Basket weave

Leaves

- Plain leaf
- Stand up leaf
- Ruffled leaf
- Holly
- Violet leaf

Flowers

- Rosebud
- Sweet pea
- Bleeding heart
- Lily of the valley
- Half carnation
- Half rose
- Apple blossom (nail)
- Aster (nail)
- Bachelor button (nail)
- Brown-eyed susan (nail)

- Chrysanthemum (nail)
- Daffodil & jonquil (nail)
- Daisy (nail)
- Dogwood (nail)
- Forget-me-not (nail)
- Full carnation (nail)
- Narcissus (nail)
- Pansy (nail)
- Poinsettia (method 1) (nail)
- Poppy (nail)
- Rose (nail)
- Sunflower (nail)
- Violet (nail)
- Wild rose (nail)
- Other flat flower (nail)

Lettering

- Lettering forms (fill in with dots or lines)
- Printing
- Script (cursive)

Special Effects

- Grass, fur or hair
- Stencil applications
- Sugar mold (solid)
- Color flow (pictures with thinned icing)
- Cornelli lace
- Figure piping
- Haystacks
- Lattice design
- Pinecones
- Pine needles & cat whiskers
- Royal icing lace
- Sotas
- Sugar mold, hollow
- Trees
- Wheat

Level 3

Coloring Techniques

- Deep color effects
- Painting

Borders & Side Decorations

- Basket weave
- Bow trimmed strings
- Crown
- Drop strings
- Lambeth method
- Fleur-de-lis
- Flower & vine
- Ribbon & ball fringe
- Ribbon swag
- Shirred ribbon & shell
- String lace
- Triple drop strings
- Zigzag garland & ruffle

Flowers

- Apple blossom (nail)
- Aster (nail)
- Bachelor button (nail)
- Brown-eyed susan (nail)
- Chrysanthemum (nail)
- Daffodil & jonquil (nail)
- Daisy (nail)
- Dogwood (nail)
- Forget-me-not (nail)
- Full carnation (nail)
- Narcissus (nail)
- Pansy (nail)

- Poinsettia (method 1) (nail)
- Poppy (nail)
- Rose (nail)
- Sunflower (nail)
- Violet (nail)
- Wild rose (nail)
- Other flat flower (nail)
- Bluebell (lily nail)
- California poppy (lily nail)
- Easter lily (lily nail)
- Morning glory (lily nail)
- Nasturtium (lily nail)
- Poinsettia (method 2) (lily nail)
- Petunia (lily nail)
- Other flower (lily nail)

Lettering

- Printing
- Script (cursive)

Special Effects

- Austrian lace
- Chocolate modeling (flowers)
- Chocolate modeling (leaves)
- Fondant (cooked)
- Fondant (rolled – cake covering)
- Fondant (rolled – flowers & decorations)
- Gum paste
- Marzipan
- Pulled sugar
- Wires with assorted decorations attached



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