



Floral Arch

Intermediate Level

✓ Introduction

✓ Applications & Materials

✓ Step by Step Instruction



INTRODUCTION

The LINK-O-LOON® chain is perhaps the most simple of all LINK-O-LOON® designs. When filled with helium and anchored at two points on each end, the chain instantly becomes an arch.

APPLICATIONS

- Stage Backdrop
- Main Table Arch
- Entrance Décor
- Dance Floor Décor

MATERIALS & EQUIPMENT

10 Flower version

- Helium
- Balloon Sizer
- 4 x Small Balloon Anchors
- 16 x Fashion Royal Blue 30cm (12") LINK-O-LOON®s helium-filled
- 12 x Crystal Fuchsia 30cm (12") LINK-O-LOON®s helium-filled
- 12 x Fashion Yellow 30cm (12") LINK-O-LOON®s helium-filled
- 20 x white latex 12cm (5") round balloons air-filled to 10cm (4")

The simplest method for creating the Floral Arch is to create two equal length LINK-O-LOON® chains, filled with helium, tied tip to tail and weighted at one end.

NOTE: Poorly tied knots may slip or stretch. It is important for the knots to be completely secure as well as have a neat appearance. Knots that are tied too loosely can cause the overall length of the arch to vary slightly or worse, cause premature deflation.



STEP BY STEP

Preparing the Flower Centers

1. Inflate two Fashion Royal Blue 12cm (5") round balloons to 10cm (4") and tie the necks together to form a duplet.
2. Repeat with the remaining 12cm (5") balloons, creating four Fashion Royal Blue, three Crystal Fuchsia and three Fashion Yellow duplets and set aside.

Making the First CHAIN

3. Helium-fill a Fashion Royal Blue 30cm (12") LINK-O-LOON® and tie the neck. Attach this balloon to a weight.
4. Helium-fill a Fashion Royal Blue 30cm (12")

LINK-O-LOON® and tie the neck to the tip of the weighted LINK-O-LOON® making sure you wrap the neck and tip together tightly before you knot them together.

5. Continue to add fashion LINK-O-LOON®s one at a time to the chain as described, changing the colors as you build the chain using first: two Blue, two Yellow, two Fuchsia, then two more Blue, etc.

Making the Second CHAIN

6. Create a matching second chain as described above making sure the colors exactly match the placement in the first chain.



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Making the Flowers

7. Holding each chain at the first joined knots, wrap the two chains together insuring that you complete at least two full twists. To add stability as you form the flowers, wrap in a 12cm (5") white duplet as a collar which will create the center of the first Blue "flower".
8. Move to the middle of the next color set which is Fashion Yellow (third and fourth balloons in the chains) and wrap the chains together at least two full twists where they are knotted as before. Wrap in a white 12cm (5") duplet to contrast in the center of the Yellow "flower". Repeat this step for the next color set which is Crystal Fuchsia (fourth and fifth balloons).
9. Continue to wrap the chains and add duplet centers to the end of the arch and complete by adding two anchors to the ends of the final "flower".
10. A nice finish to cover the mechanics is to add small clusters of four balloons to conceal the anchors and establish a visually balanced base for the arch.

Outdoor Use

The double anchor at each end adds more stability for outdoor use. For windy days, the anchors can be made heavier or attached to ground spikes, and the floral chain formation has more body and is less likely to blow as freely as a standard string of pearl arch.

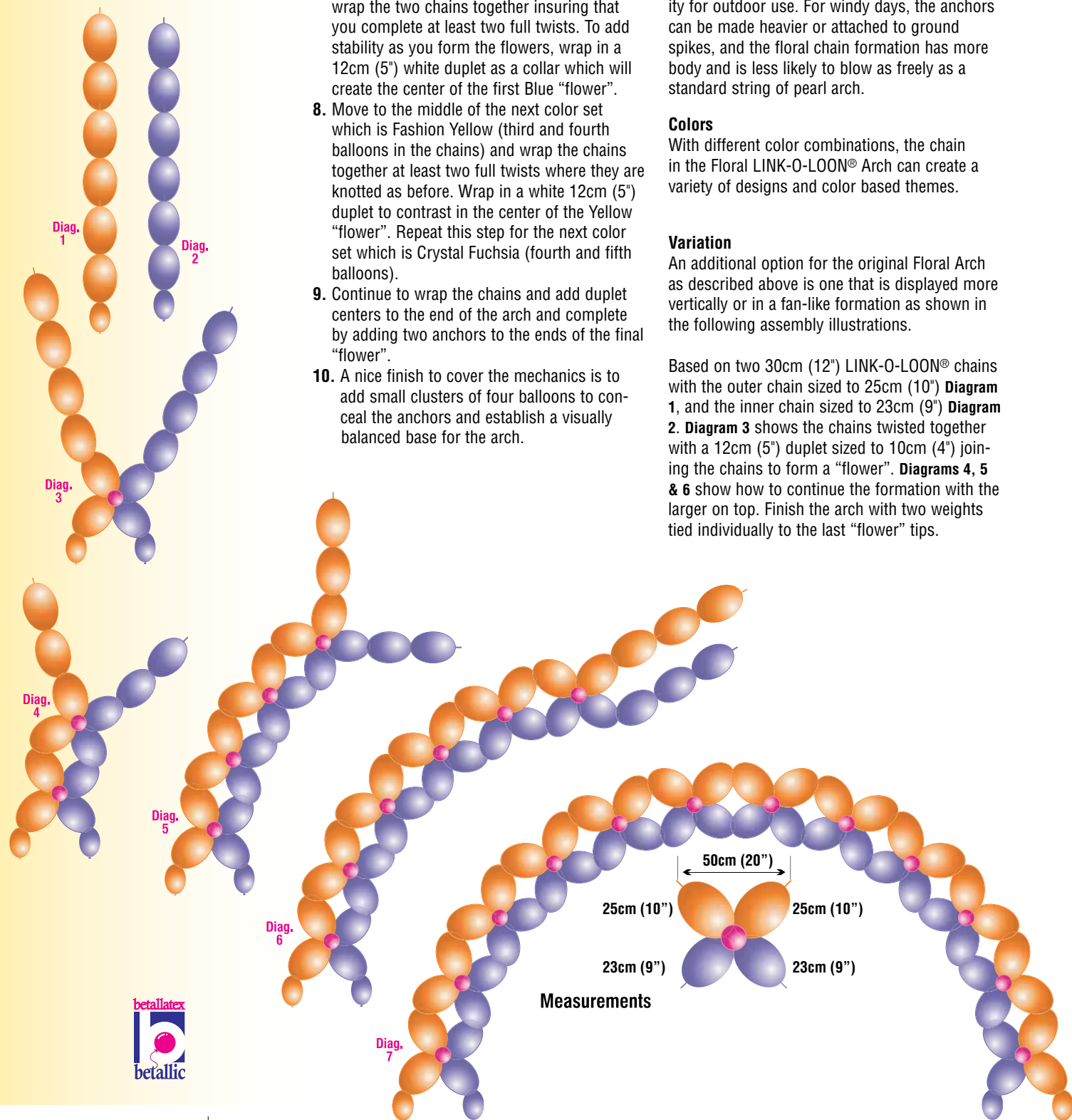
Colors

With different color combinations, the chain in the Floral LINK-O-LOON® Arch can create a variety of designs and color based themes.

Variation

An additional option for the original Floral Arch as described above is one that is displayed more vertically or in a fan-like formation as shown in the following assembly illustrations.

Based on two 30cm (12") LINK-O-LOON® chains with the outer chain sized to 25cm (10") **Diagram 1**, and the inner chain sized to 23cm (9") **Diagram 2**. **Diagram 3** shows the chains twisted together with a 12cm (5") duplet sized to 10cm (4") joining the chains to form a "flower". **Diagrams 4, 5 & 6** show how to continue the formation with the larger on top. Finish the arch with two weights tied individually to the last "flower" tips.



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Pro Tip

Color combinations can be varied to achieve a multitude of designs.

Pro Tip

An air-filled wall can also form an effective and colorful stage backdrop.

Variation: The Wall

The same construction technique can be applied to create a WALL OF BALLOONS.

1. Helium-fill eight 30cm (12") LINK-O-LOON®s (any color) to 25cm (10") tying tip to tail and add a weight at both ends and another in the middle of the chain as illustrated in **Diagrams 8 & 9**.
2. Helium-fill and tie the necks of two LINK-O-LOON®s to create a duplet and wrap onto the first set of LINK-O-LOON®s where they are joined in the chain as shown in **Diagram 10**.
3. Repeat adding LINK-O-LOON® duplets along the length of the chain as shown in **Diagram 11** and tie the topmost tips together to create a "flower" formation which will give you the joining points for the next level of LINK-O-LOON® duplets.
4. Continue to add LINK-O-LOON® duplets as shown in **Diagram 12** to build the wall to the height you require. You may need to add a single LINK-O-LOON® as shown to fill in any spaces at the edges as also demonstrated in **Diagram 12**.
5. Complete the design either as you build the wall levels or at the end of the construction by wrapping in 12cm (5") air-filled duplets sized to 10cm (4") where the LINK-O-LOON®s are joined together.

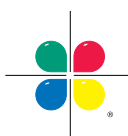
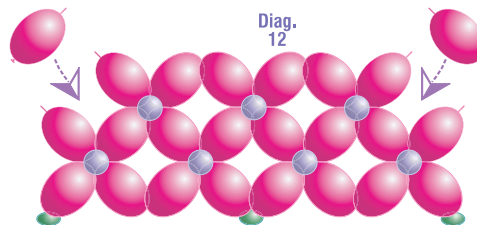
NOTE: It's easy to create a longer wall by simply adding to the length of the first chain of LINK-O-LOON®s and then building the design upward with duplets that are tied together for a beautiful textured finish.

Variation: The Tunnel or Canopy

It's easy to construct a tunnel with this same method. Simply add a chain at the top of the wall formation that matches the one at the bottom. Pull the top of the wall down and tie in weights at each end and in the middle to correspond with the bottom weighted chain and move the tunnel closer together or farther apart depending on the height you desire for the tunnel.

CONCLUSION

This practical arch can provide a bright and colorful design in any classic room décor. It has a natural curve which adds to the beauty and simplicity of the construction. Perfect for many occasions and a profitable and beautiful addition for a variety of themes.



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