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Contributed by Janet Mackey

## PRESERVING SUMMER MEMORIES with PRESSED FLOWERS

My summer garden brings me delight ... but, alas, it is fleeting. I have found an easy way to preserve a bit of that delight by pressing blossoms and leaves in a small flower press for the microwave.

I pick a few flower heads or a lovely leaf and place them in a small terracotta press, using cotton squares and pieces of felt to absorb the moisture. I process them in 30-second spurts, checking between each to straighten out any folded parts and to remove pieces as they dry. In about 5 minutes, I can have a pressed and dried specimen to add to a



notecard or just to marvel at when cold snowy weather makes me yearn for my flowers.



Terracotta microwave flower presses are available online. They provide an easy way to add a little whimsy to your life. 