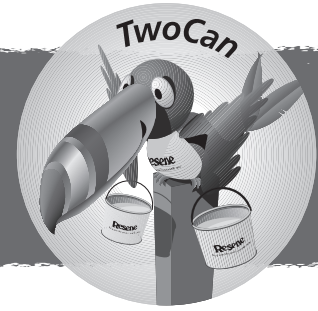


“ This time of year tends to get a bit stressful trying to jam in everything before the holidays start. Sometimes laughter is the best stress relief so grab yourself a cuppa and enjoy this 12 Days of Christmas. After this, socks for a Christmas gift will be looking pretty good... ”



The 12 Days of Christmas

The 12 Days of Christmas is a wonderful song and story. Of course, that's the one we know and love. What if it didn't really work out that way? What if the 12 Days of Christmas went wrong?

December 14th

Dear Lance, the love of my life:

Words failed me when I received your gift of a Partridge in a Pear Tree. Your thoughtfulness and creativity brought tears of happiness to my eyes. Thank you, thank you, thank you for such a wonderful gift.

All my love, Gwen

December 15th

Dearest Lance,

The postal carrier came to my door today with the most adorable package, Two Turtle Doves! They are so cute and coo so romantically together. I must repeat myself when I tell you how thoughtful you are Lance. I look forward to our life together in love just like these doves!

Loving you sooooo much, Gwen

December 16th

Dear Lance,

You again surprised me with your thoughtfulness and generosity. When the Three French Hens arrived via Fed Ex® today I couldn't believe my eyes. Actually, they are just awesome to watch strutting around, but I did wonder about the pattern I'm seeing. After all, 1 Partridge, 2 Doves, and now 3 Hens. I'm not clear about how poultry fits into our love, but your thoughts are very much appreciated.

With my love, Gwen

December 17th

Dear Lance,

I must admit that today my confusion got the better of me when the UPS® driver rang my doorbell. The four Calling Birds he delivered are gorgeous, their plumage is exquisite, beyond compare. But that poultry thing came into view again. I mean, it's very romantic, but, well, is this the end of the birds?

Love, Gwen

December 18th

Dearest wonderful Lance,

Okay, now you're back on track! The postal lady brought your gift today. Five Gold Rings. They're awesome! I can wear a different one every day!! I love you so much Lance! (But I am a bit concerned about the birds, you know, the partridge, doves, hens, and calling birds. They make a lot of racket day and night. It's affecting my sleep, and the neighbours are beginning to wonder why Amazon® has delivered birdseed to my house three times this week.)

With affection, Gwen

December 19th

Lance,

You know, after your wonderful gift of the 5 Gold Rings yesterday, I thought we turned a positive corner in our relationship. Imagine my surprise to find 6 Geese Laying eggs on my front door steps! That's right, laying eggs! And these critters are monsters compared to the other birds you've sent me. They're huge! I don't know where I'm going to put them, and the neighbours are really beginning to notice now too. Mrs. Millicent next door comes out on her porch each morning to see which delivery service will show up at my door! Enough is enough!

Gwen

December 20th

Hey Lance!

WOW! Do you know how big a swan is? And 7 Swans a Swimming? The delivery service had to bring a huge, round, horse tank, you know, the kind used to water horses, for all these swans! Are you trying to be funny? Have you done the simple math? 1 partridge, plus 2 doves, plus 3 hens, plus 4 calling birds, plus 6 geese, plus 7 swans. That's right buster. I am living with 23 farm animals and waterfowl in my house and yard!! And none of them are housebroken!!!

Sincerely, Gwen

December 21st

Dude, you've lost it!

What started out as a thoughtful display of affection has gone way beyond reasonable! Why in the world did you send me 8 Maids a Milking???? That's right milking!! Which means they have 8 cows too!! I don't have enough rooms and beds for 8 maids to sleep in, AND, there are cow patties all over the place! Stop already!

Angry and perturbed, Gwen



>>

>> December 22nd

Hey stupid!

Do you have some kind of death wish? That's right! Today 9 Pipers Piping invaded my home. Do you know how loud 9 pipers playing their pipes are? And they're eyeing the maids! I don't need any of that in my house! And you should see the cows and the birds, running for cover and trying to get away from those noisy pipers! Mrs. Millicent across the street called the Sheriff's office to have me evicted from the neighbourhood!

What's next you jerk? Gwen

December 23rd

I don't even know what to call you anymore,

You know there are 23 birds in my house, and 8 maids, plus 9 pipers, which makes 17. And today 10 Ladies Dancing showed up too. That's 27 people in my house on top of everything else!! And with 9 pipers and 18 maids and ladies here, the city council called telling me I had to get a business license for "the hotel" I was operating. (All of this in the midst of all those non-house broken animals, the smell is horrendous.)

Expect a call from the police Lance! Gwen

December 24th

You are so done buster!

The 11 Lords a Leaping entered my home today, if you can even call it a home anymore. That's right, 11 more people. This brings the body count up

to 38. THERE ARE 38 PEOPLE IN MY HOUSE!!! If not for the 5 Gold Rings I would have you shot.

The last person on earth who wants to talk to you! G.

December 25th

Mr. Lance A. Lot, Joyous Gard castle

Dear Sir:

This letter acknowledges your gift today, of 12 Fiddlers Fiddling. It is unclear why you arranged for these, and in fact, for a total of 50 people to invade Gwen's home, which was already overrun by farm animals, poultry, and water fowl. Your complete disregard for the consequences of your action is inexcusable, and is in fact, unconscionable.

Please see the enclosed restraining order. You are forthwith forbidden to attempt any contact with Miss Gwen, now or in the future. Should you seek to visit her at the Happy Valley

Sanitarium Home you will be promptly

arrested, hand-cuffed, and jailed.

Any future correspondence should be directed to our office and my attention.

A. H. Badger

A. H. Badger, esq.

78 Animal Way

The Law Offices of Badger, Weasel, and Shrew

Thanks to www.atimetolaugh.org for letting us share this with you. If you need a laugh check out their website for more funny stories!



The year that was

When you're focused on the day to day, it's easy to forget how far you've come. Sometimes it pays to sit back and take stock of where you were a year ago, two years ago, 10 years ago, 20 years ago and appreciate how much you have achieved since then. It's easy to remember all the things you haven't done, but how about giving yourself a pat on the back for all those things you have achieved.

It's the same for us at Resene. Just 20 years ago, all our docketts were handwritten – yes handwritten! We didn't even have computers on our desks, let alone smartphones! Our A4 drawdown swatches hadn't been invented yet, nor had our **The Range** fandecks. The testpot range was just a fraction of what it is now, and our website had about 10 pages total and we were lucky if 20 people visited it a month. Google only just started in 1998. Facebook, Youtube and Instagram didn't start until even later. It makes you wonder what things will look like in another 20 years!

Our testpots moved to the plastic packaging they are in around 19 years ago and while they have had a few tweaks over the years, they are largely the same as they were then... until this year when we have introduced a clear viewing window in the lid so you can see the colour without opening the lid. Very handy when you have a testpot collection going and don't want to open every pot to see which is which!

For those suffering with hydrostatic pressure causing issues in their project, the Tech team came to the rescue with new **Resene HydraBlock** to help control rising damp and efflorescence. That's one less headache for many owners.

Everyone always wants a durable finish inside, so to provide an option to make existing paint more durable, Resene released **SpaceCote Clear** for extra protection to high wear and tear areas. And to make sure floors are looked after too, new **Resene ProSelect** provides a hardwearing option for hardwood floors.

And of course there was colour – the new **The Range** fashion fandeck is always a highlight with a whole host of fresh new colours to choose from.

And for those who just aren't into the trends, we have also created the **Resene Classics** collection with many of our favourite colours that will be popular for years to come. Even **Resene Chalkboard Paint** celebrates a love of colour, moving from a choice of three colours to well over 50 different colour options, so there's something to suit all projects.

Tony Nightingale, the son of Ted Nightingale who started Resene, was accepted into the Business Hall of Fame, fitting recognition for a lifetime spent passionate about paint and colour, and a neverending appetite to keep improving both. It was Tony who introduced the first Resene ColorShop, many of the bold colours Resene is known for and the first testpot.

The Resene team have continued to keep working hard, not only to bring you new products, colours and services but also to help solve your paint and coating problems and to assist with all those tricky jobs. This has been recognised with Resene named Most Trusted Paint Brand and also winning the Gold award in the Quality Service Awards for ColorShops. Of course, we know that there is still always opportunity to improve so if you have a suggestion for us, we'd love to hear it. You can email us anytime at update@resene.co.nz or fill out the feedback form on our website. It's thanks to your support and suggestions over all the years that we have been able to continually improve our products, colours and services, which has helped us grow to where we are now.

A huge thank you from all the Resene team for your support – we couldn't do what we do without you.

We wish you and your family happy holidays and a Bright New Year!



Catch you in the New Year!

TwoCan, Editor.

