

distressed terracotta pots

Give beautiful antique character to brand new terracotta pots! (Just be aware this technique is suitable for indoor pots only).

To make

- Terracotta pots
- Plaster of paris
- Mixing bowl and spoon
- Jug of clean water
- Paintbrushes and putty knife
- Ruler and pencil
- Rubber band
- Strong glue
- Foam letter stickers
- Toothpicks or skewers
- Sandpaper
- Bristle paintbrush and cloths
- Your choice of Resene finish

Cost: \$25. This excludes Resene products. I used Resene Exterior/Interior Primer, Resene Half Scotch Mist as a top coat, and dry brushed, and damp and dry clothed with Resene Jaguar paint to finish of the pots for a more antique look.



Step 1

Using the mixing bowl and spoon, mix in the plaster of paris and water following the manufacturers instructions. A thin mix is good for the first coat.

Apply the plaster mixture using a paintbrush or putty knife s base layer of plaster. Leave to dry. Dispose of all leftover of plaster of paris mix in a newspaper, and rinse all equipment with clean water.

Step 2

Measure the distance from the bottom of the terracotta pot to where you want to place your letters, and mark with a pencil. Pull the rubber band around the pot to the marked line.

When happy with the placement, glue them to your marks. Leave to dry.

Step 3

Mix a second batch of plaster of paris, and brush over the letters. Use the skewers or toothpicks to go around each letter. The remaining plaster can

be used for a second coat over the pot. Leave to dry.

Step 4

Once dry, sand over the pot to remove any rough areas. Remove any dust with a wide paintbrush.

Step 5

Paint two coats of primer over the pots, and leave terracotta you want to show through.

Then finish with your choice of Resene top coat. I chose Resene Half Scotch Mist for a creamy antique look.

Step 6

I decanted the Resene Jaguar test pot into a container and used the bristle brush to dry brush the paint on areas of the pot. You could also use a damp cloth to add the paint and buff with a dry cloth.

Once dry, you can sandpaper again to expose the terracotta for a more distressed look. ■



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