

# Stepping into the savannah

The thought of creating a nursery for your baby from scratch can be a little overwhelming, but it doesn't need to be with a few helpful tips and tricks

ART DIRECTION + STYLING VANESSA NOUWENS  
PHOTOGRAPHY WENDY FENWICK

**This page** Floor and back wall painted in Resene Double Spanish White. Giraffe pattern wall painted in Resene Spanish White and Resene Brown Sugar. Rattan Pendant, painted in Resene Brown Sugar, stylist's own. French doors painted in Resene White, [resene.co.nz/colorshops](http://resene.co.nz/colorshops).

Aspen Cot, painted in Resene Brown Sugar, \$399.95, Vale Cot Mattress, \$149.95, Ellas Change Table, painted in Resene Canterbury Clay, \$349.95, and Elanora Large Floor Rug, \$199.95, all from [mocka.co.nz](http://mocka.co.nz); Peekaboo Prints A3 Baby Giraffe Print, \$59, [popmotif.com](http://popmotif.com); Boucle Sundae Chair, \$99, [kmart.co.nz](http://kmart.co.nz); Babywise White Cotton Cot Sheet 2 Pack, \$12, [thewarehouse.co.nz](http://thewarehouse.co.nz); Boucle Ball Cushion in white, \$69.95, Washed Linen Cushion in tobacco \$89.99, and Winslow Throw in tobacco and natural (over cot), \$109.99, [adairs.co.nz](http://adairs.co.nz); Geri Giraffe Cushion (on floor), \$111.50, [freedomfurniture.co.nz](http://freedomfurniture.co.nz).

In change table: Sophie La Girafe, \$45.99, [farmers.co.nz](http://farmers.co.nz); Bobble Organic Cotton Baby Blanket in toffee, \$54.99, [adairs.co.nz](http://adairs.co.nz); Kos Throw in tan, \$64.95, [freedomfurniture.co.nz](http://freedomfurniture.co.nz); Baby sneakers in white, \$14, Baby Boots in tan, \$9, and Foam Change Mat, \$19, all from [kmart.co.nz](http://kmart.co.nz).



"A room design is normally formulated by taking one idea or item you love and building on it."

A room design is normally formulated by taking one idea or item you love and building on it. It could be a piece of art or a print you love, wallpaper, or even bed linen. This is known as a 'seed' item - it's the item from which the rest of the design grows. In this case the starting point or 'seed' item was the very cute giraffe print I found. The colours in the print determined the colour palette for the whole room and inspired the giraffe pattern feature wall.

The key with any nursery room design is balancing out the colours at play so the space feels soft and calming for both mum and baby. In this room we opted for a neutral colour palette (great for those families having a surprise gender reveal at birth!). Both the floor and back wall are painted in Resene Double Spanish White which is a lovely

warm, creamy white. The giraffe wall is a fun pop of colour and pattern and adds some personality.

Coordinating Resene colours were used to paint the cot, change table and cabinet so the space felt cohesive. Layers of texture were introduced to create interest and add softness to the space. Linen, boucle, rattan, jute, tassel throw blankets and baskets are all in the mix in this playful nursery.

#### GIRAFFE WALL DESIGN

This patterned wall is quite bold in its design, but it works because we chose to paint the design onto a small wall. To create this giraffe skin pattern we painted the base colour in Resene Spanish White then drew the design on in pencil first. Once happy with the design, we filled in the design with Resene Brown Sugar. It doesn't need to be perfect so don't stress about the shapes being uniform. •

**Previous page** Bookshelf, painted in Resene Brown Sugar, stylist's own; Boucle Sundae Chair, \$99, kmart.co.nz; Koo Kids Wild Daisy Cushion, \$35, spotlightstores.com; Patsy Woven Storage Basket, \$89.95, Bryony Throw, \$89.95, and Geri Giraffe Toy, \$94.95, all from freedomfurniture.co.nz; Elanora Large Floor Rug, \$199.95, mocka.co.nz. Books, stylist's own. Ply photo hangers (DIY description on p136).

**This page** Floor and back wall painted in Resene Double Spanish White. Giraffe pattern wall painted in Resene Spanish White and Resene Brown Sugar, resene.co.nz/colorshops.

**Right** Credits previously listed, with the addition of Babies 3 Pack Long Sleeve Bodysuit, \$15, postie.co.nz and Wooden Crate (painted in Resene Brown Sugar), \$6.50, kmart.co.nz.

**Below** Rattan Look Round Wall Shelf, \$34, kmart.co.nz. In shelf: Wooden Stackable Tower, painted in Resene Gold Coast, Resene Canterbury Clay, Resene Spanish White and Resene Brown Sugar, \$16.99, cottonon.com; Wood Age Blocks, \$14, kmart.co.nz; Rattan Holder, \$5, spotlightstores.com.

Cabinet, painted in Resene Café Royale, stylist's own. On cabinet: Wooden Peg/Hammer Toy, painted in Resene Spanish White, Resene Brown Sugar and Resene Canterbury Clay, \$34.99, cottonon.com; Small Wooden Animal Toy - Giraffe, \$3, kmart.co.nz; Basket (holding blocks), \$6.90, spotlightstores.co.nz; Boyle Wiggle Animals Crafty Kit - Wooden Giraffe, \$9, bunnings.co.nz.



**Below** Peekaboo Prints A3 Baby Giraffe Print, \$59, popmotif.com.





**Previous page** Floor and back wall painted in Resene Double Spanish White. French doors painted in Resene White, [resene.co.nz/colorshops](https://resene.co.nz/colorshops). Niko & Co. Kids Bedroom Canopy in natural, \$129.90, [bedbathandbeyond.co.nz](https://bedbathandbeyond.co.nz); Boucle Round Cushion (in canopy), \$24.95, [mocka.co.nz](https://mocka.co.nz); TSAR Scatter Cushion in gold (in canopy), \$54.95, and Sorrento Linen Cushion in buff (in canopy), \$64.95, [freedomfurniture.co.nz](https://freedomfurniture.co.nz); Off White Textured Cushion Cover (in canopy), \$15, [hm.com](https://hm.com); Boucle Ball Cushion, \$69.95, [adairs.co.nz](https://adairs.co.nz). Items in shelf and on cabinet previously listed.

**Above** Wooden Crate, painted in Resene Brown Sugar, \$6.50, [kmart.co.nz](https://kmart.co.nz). Wooden Blocks (DIY description on p136).

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WOODEN BLOCKS

You will need

- ☆ Square dowel chopped into 4cm x 4cm size cubes
- ☆ Resene Colorwood Natural Interior Wood Stain in Ironbark and Walnut
- ☆ Resene Aquaclear Varnish

To make these wooden blocks we took a length of square dowel and chopped it into 4cm x 4cm sized cubes. We gave the ends a light sand and then stained the blocks in Resene Colorwood Natural Interior Wood Stain in Ironbark and Walnut. Once dry, you can paint your design on them (we used Resene Spanish White). To seal the blocks we used Resene Aquaclear Varnish in a semi gloss. Pop these in a cute little crate box or use on display in the room.

"If you love to do some simple DIY paint projects these two easy projects can be whipped up in a matter of a few hours."

PLY PHOTO HANGERS

You will need

- ☆ 7mm ply - cut into pieces that are 20cm wide and 30cm in length
- ☆ Resene Colorwood Natural Interior Stain in Ironbark and Walnut
- ☆ Cotton rope

Get some 7mm ply and cut into pieces which are 20cm wide and 30cm in length. We stained ours in Resene Colorwood Natural Interior Stain in Ironbark and Walnut. Drill two holes in the top of the ply and thread some cotton rope through, tying knots at the front of the boards as seen in the picture. Either glue or use double sided tape to stick your photos or prints onto the boards and hang up in room.

