

fern imprints



Bring the garden indoors with a trio of fern prints.
Barbara Smith shows how.



1 Place canvas on four small blocks. This makes it easy to paint the sides.

You will need:

- 3 mounted artists canvases, paint brush, scrap paper, fern fronds.
- 3 test pots in your choice of colours. (We used Resene Olive, Glade Green and Surf Crest.)
- Optional: rubber roller, small blocks, cardboard or similar for packing.



2 Paint canvas with two coats of the base colour. Allow to dry between coats. Repeat with the other two canvases and base colours.



3 The centre of the canvas is flexible. Make a firm surface by packing from behind with scrap cardboard or similar. I used a box the same size as the interior edges of the wooden frame.



4 Paint the top surface of a fern frond with a contrast colour. Tip: leave end of stem paint free for easy handling.



5 Place frond paint side down on canvas. Tip: do several practice prints on scrap paper.



6 Cover with clean piece of paper. Press firmly and evenly with the side of your hand or a small rubber roller.



7 Remove fern carefully. Allow paint to dry.