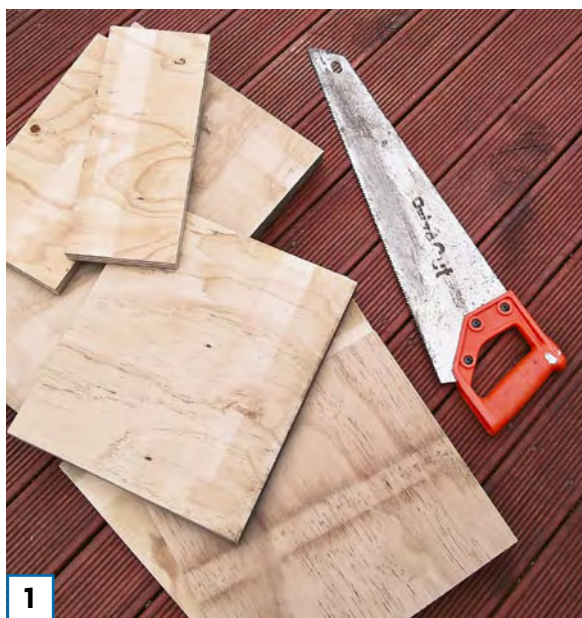# Plywood mailbox

Mark Rayner shows how to keep your mail safe and dry with this simple but sturdy mailbox constructed from treated plywood.

You will need:

- 19mm treated plywood cut to the following dimensions:
  - 300mm x 120mm – front upper section
  - 300mm x 300mm – front lower section
  - 300mm x 260mm – top
  - 300mm x 260mm – base
  - 300mm x 145mm – back upper section
  - 300mm x 298mm – back lower section (hinged door)
- Two pieces of 22mm treated plywood measuring 300mm x 450mm – side pieces
- Stainless steel or galvanised hinges and catch
- 40mm galvanised nails
- Hammer
- Saw
- Screwdriver
- Sandpaper
- Paintbrushes (including a medium artist's brush)
- Pencil
- Carbon paper
- House number copied onto A4 paper
- Tape measure
- Ruler
- Exterior PVA glue
- Resene Quick Dry
- Resene Lumbersider tinted to Resene La Luna
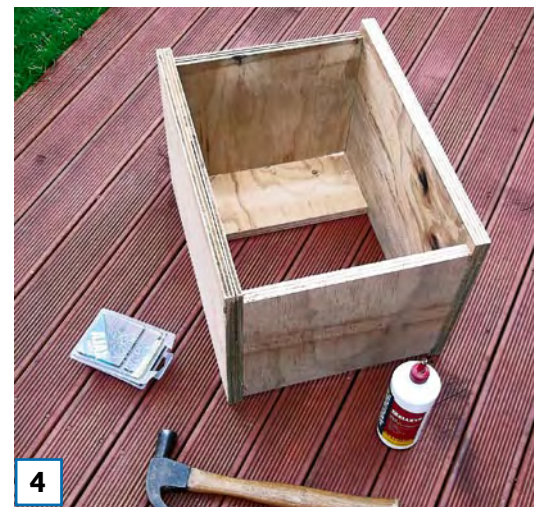- Resene testpot of Resene Zion

1 Measure, mark and cut the plywood to the dimensions listed above. Smooth any rough edges with sandpaper.
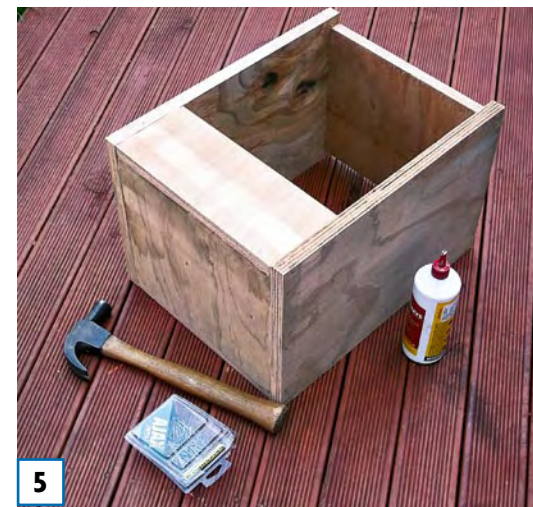

2 On a sturdy flat surface, attach the back upper section to the two side pieces, as shown, fixing with PVA glue and nails.

3 Attach the base to the two side pieces – the base should be positioned centrally along each side (leaving a 20mm gap at the front and back). Fix with PVA glue and nails.
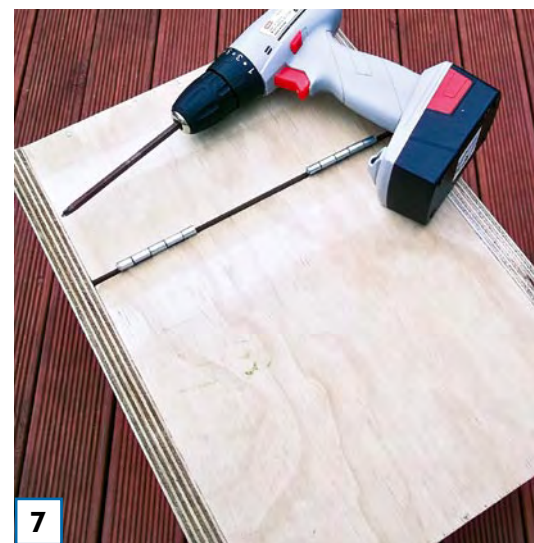

4 Attach the top to the two side pieces (ensure it's flush along each edge) and fix with PVA glue and nails.
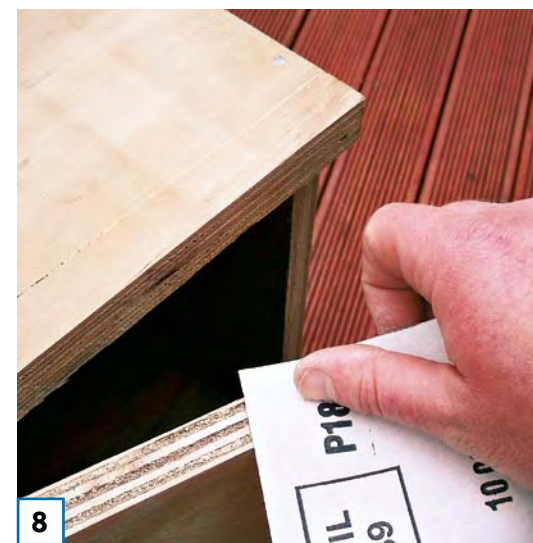

5 Fix the front upper section into position with PVA glue and nails – again, ensure edges are flush.
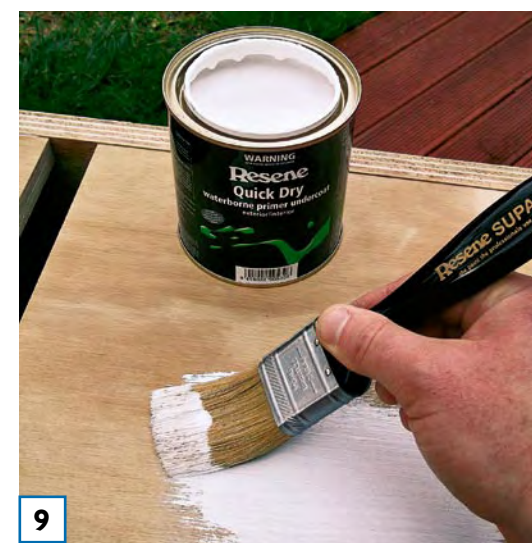

6 Fix the front lower section into position, leaving a 30mm gap, as shown. Fix with PVA glue and nails.

7 Fix the lower back section (door) into position, attaching with two hinges, as shown. Fix a catch along the bottom edge.

8 Sand the edges of the hinged door (if necessary) to ensure easy opening and closing once painted.

9 Apply one coat of Resene Quick Dry to the entire mailbox (inside and outside) and allow two hours to dry.

10 Apply two coats of Resene La Luna to the entire mailbox (inside and outside), allowing two hours for each coat to dry.

11 Place the carbon paper face down on the front of the mailbox, position the house number on top, and trace around the outside of the lettering with a pencil.

12 Using a medium artist's brush, paint in the lettering with two coats of Resene Zion, allowing two hours for each coat to dry.

Here's another idea...

Mark painted the background corrugated iron fence with Resene Lumbersider tinted to Resene Birdcage. ■