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# SNAZZY SHELVES & SPOTTY POTS

Get creative with your child (or grandchild) with this simple-to-make two-in-one DIY project – that repurposes fence palings as handy shelving and turns one plant into 12 new ones to display on it.

WORDS & PHOTOS MARK RAYNER

## GARDEN SHELVES *(one for the grown-ups)*

### YOU WILL NEED

#### MATERIALS

- Fence palings cut to the following lengths:
  - 1200mm (x 2)
  - 500mm (x 6)
- 63mm exterior decking screws
- Resene Waterborne Woodsman penetrating oil stain tinted to Resene Whero

#### TOOLS

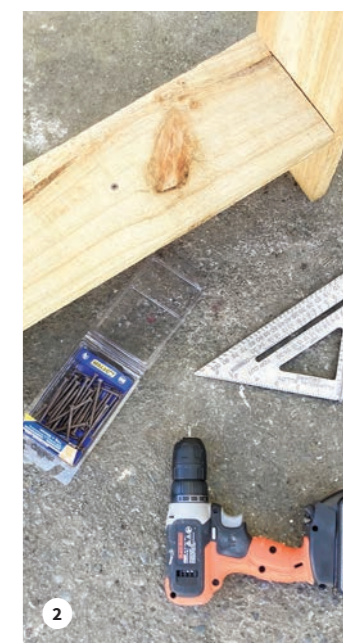
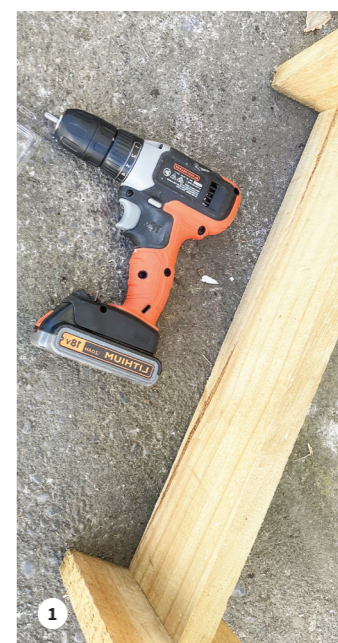
- Paintbrush
- Pencil
- Saw
- Screwdriver
- Set square (to ensure shelves are fixed perpendicular to the sides)
- Tape measure

**Step 1** Attach one 500mm length of timber to two 1200mm lengths of timber, as shown, to form the vertical base support, fixing in the centre of the 1200mm lengths with 63mm screws.

**Step 2** Attach a second 500mm length of timber into position to form the bottom shelf, again fixing with 63mm screws.

**Step 3** In the same way, fix the remaining shelves into position, ensuring that they are evenly spaced.

**Step 4** Apply two coats of Resene Waterborne Woodsman penetrating oil stain tinted to Resene Whero to the plant shelves, allowing two hours for each coat to dry.





## SPOTTY POTS *(one for the kids)*

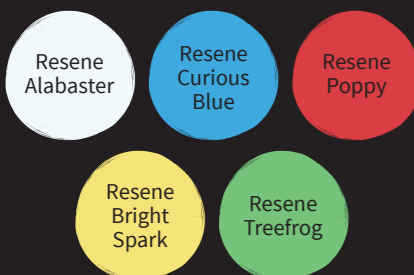
### YOU WILL NEED

#### MATERIALS

- 12 small terracotta pots
- A medium-sized 'jelly bean' plant (*Sedum pachyphyllum*)
- Potting mix
- Resene Aquapel & Terracotta Sealer
- Resene testpots of Resene Alabaster, Resene Bright Spark, Resene Curious Blue, Resene Poppy and Resene Treefrog (or five of your favourite Resene colours)

#### TOOLS

- Paintbrushes



**Step 1** Seal the inside and outside of all the terracotta pots with one coat of Resene Aquapel & Terracotta Sealer and allow it to dry. (You might need your grown-up to help with this bit.)

**Step 2** Paint three of each of the terracotta pots with Resene Bright Spark, Resene Curious Blue, Resene Poppy or Resene Treefrog, as shown. Once the first coat of paint has dried, apply a second coat and allow this to dry too.

**Step 3** Paint spots on the outside of each pot using Resene Alabaster and allow the paint to dry.

**Step 4** Carefully break off 12 small pieces from the 'jelly bean' plant, making sure each piece has a clear stem, as shown.

**Step 5** Fill each pot with potting mix and carefully push the bare stem of the 'jelly bean' cutting into the potting mix. (Again, you might need your grown-up helper to assist with this.)

#### WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

Over a few weeks, each of the 'jelly bean' cuttings will grow its own root system and will then begin to grow larger – all you need to do is make sure your new plants get plenty of sun, and a little water if the potting mix is looking very dry.



**Mark Rayner** is our go-to expert on garden design and landscaping. Handy with a drill, he regularly contributes DIY projects too.