



Home-Dzine^{online}

It's all about caring for and improving your home

May Issue 2



We hope you enjoy the new format magazine!

Now you can easily print, save and file your copies for easy reference.

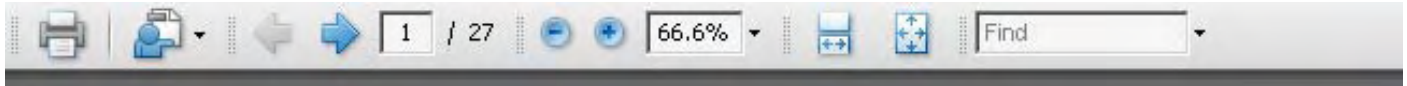
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To make sure that you enjoy the new format, please read this page carefully so that you don't miss out on important information that will make your viewing so much easier.

Our new format means that you can easily scroll through the pages

And you can view at any resolution



We've also added **active text and a directory of advertisers and sponsors** (on page 24) should you want to visit a website, send an email or find out more information.

As you hover over active elements you simply have to **click with your mouse**.

To win this handy Bosch XEO Universal Cutter - send us an email at

home-dzine@iburst.co.za

and tell us more about your favourite craft or hobby.

TIMBERCITY

A grand opening for Timbercity Mt Edgecombe

It's going to be a fun-filled day! The grand opening of Timbercity is set to get Mt Edgecombe moving. Timbercity will open with a big celebration in Flanders Drive on the 17th of May. East Coast Radio will be broadcasting live as this great new Mt Edgecombe store erupts with music, live demos, competitions, food and entertainment for the whole family.

Not only will there be the kind of great opening specials you've come to expect from Timbercity but also many amazing in-store prizes. Timbercity Mount Edgecombe will be offering a wide range of timber and timber related products, from boards and shelving, to kitchen hardware and accessories, worktops, joinery, mouldings and so much more.

Local Tradesmen as well as DIY enthusiasts can now expect the warmest welcome and friendly advice. Visit Timbercity Mt Edgecombe to experience their renowned services including design, cutting, edging and drilling. What's more, the branch will be open 7 days a week!

Don't miss the opening of Timbercity Mt Edgecombe on the 17th of May at 37 Flanders Drive. Call 031 539 2900 for more info or visit www.timbercity.co.za for details of Timbercity products and services.

historical colour

For centuries decorators have believed in using colour to enhance the importance of a room. Historical colours are still used today to invoke a sense of drama and grandness to many homes, and no room is more deserving of these rich colours than the master bedroom.

The colours you select for a bedroom should be a reflection of your individual personality - with a dash of fantasy on the side. A blue bedroom is just that - blue! But a bedroom decorated in different shades of blue, with a touch of white or other colour, becomes a completely different room.

The art is to combine colours to create a rich tapestry of hues and textures. It is for this reason that this month we look at historical colours and how these can be applied in our own, more modern, homes.

When selecting colours for the room, base your design thinking around colours, textures, fabrics and accessories that make you feel calm, serene and secure. The bedroom is also the place for the things that are most dear to you - whether that's art, photographs or personal mementos.



And while bedrooms can look great in deep, vibrant colours, for a peaceful, restful atmosphere, quiet, muted colours are soothing, comforting and calming, lending themselves well to sleep and relaxation.

For a warm, inviting room an historical palette offers soft shades of subtle, caramel, rose peach, or palest mulberry to create a restful, soothing ambience. Visit your local Prominent Paints Decorating Centre for colours for any mood, and any room in your home.

PROMINENT
PAINTS 

PROMINENT
PAINTS 
DECORATING CENTRE

so sophisticated!

For decades stencilling has been boring and uninspiring, but now it's time to show the new, trendy way to add unique wall effects.

If you've ever watched one of the Debbie Travis home makeover programmes on The Home Channel (DSTV 182), you will know how easy it is to create unique wall effects in your home. With some Mylar (acetate) sheeting, a craft knife, spray-on adhesive and paint, you can create the perfect feature wall.

LEFT: A stencilled pattern on a main wall is a great way of bringing pattern to a modern decorating scheme, and creates a unique feature.



Here's how:

1. Draw or copy a design onto a sheet of paper. You will need a craft board, or piece of scrap wood, to work on. Position the Mylar (acrylic) sheet over your drawn design and use a sharp craft knife to cut out.
2. To create a random pattern you may need to create to different designs that you can position to build up as much or as little pattern as you like.
3. Spray the back of the stencil with spray-on adhesive and apply this to the wall, making sure that it is firmly stuck into position.
4. Use a stiff stencil brush in soft, circular strokes to build up your paint in layers, moving the stencil along as each coat of paint dries, until you achieve the desired effect.

TIP: Start at the top of the wall and build up the pattern, continuing downwards and making some trails longer than others for a natural, hanging effect.





room with a view

Take inspiration from what's right outside your window. Whether the view from your bedroom is the sea and sand, or your own garden, bring the outdoor indoors for a relaxed bedroom setting.

ABOVE: In this bedroom designed by Kira Krumm, the bedding, wall texture and headboard reflect the sand and sea of the view from the master bedroom window.

If you don't live near the sea, you can still personalise your space with something right outside your window.

- Try to incorporate a touch of nature. If you don't want to be bothered with fresh flowers, bring in fallen branches and display them au naturale, or dress them up with paint.
- A display of potpourri or scented candles will add to the relaxed theme of the room. If you're a fan of aromatherapy, before

retiring at night place a few drops of your favourite aromatherapy oil in a bowl of hot water and the room will instantly be filled with scent.

- Doilies, though old-fashioned, reek of romance and serve as modern furniture protectors for clusters of pebbles and glittering rocks, or an arrangement of dried cones or acorns.

LEFT: A truly sensual bedroom that takes its cue from the colours provided by Mother Nature and the view from the bedroom window. Hues of green are reflected in the various textures; from a rich, soft velvet backdrop, to luxurious shimmering satin and silk to dress the bed. Room design by David Dalton.



A beautifully designed headboard is the perfect way to create an impact in any bedroom. Follow our easy instructions to create this framed headboard.



reader request

framed headboard

You will need:

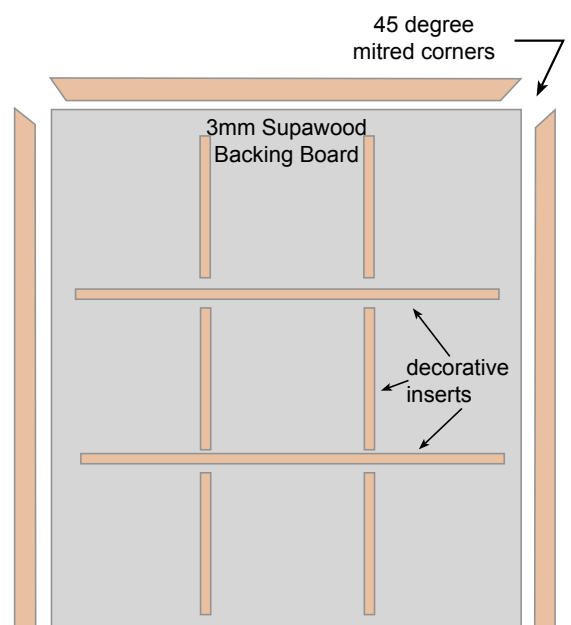
- 3mm Supawood* (backing board)
- 12mm pine* (frame)
- 12mm battens* (decorative inserts)
- Wood glue
- Panel pins
- Tools: Jigsaw, multi-sander

Option: Paint the backing board with acrylic paint in the colour of your choice, or cover with fabric and use a Bosch Tacker or staple gun to attach fabric to back of board. For a more padded look, add a layer of batting underneath the fabric.

**Have all your wood cut to size at your local Timbercity. Specify PG Bison for quality board and timber products*

Here's how:

1. Have the backing board cut slightly larger than the width of the bed, and to the desired height of the headboard.
2. Cut the lengths of pine to the exact height and width of the backing board, and then use a corner triangle to mark off 45 degrees at either end (as shown in the illustration above). Cut these out with a jigsaw and lightly sand smooth.
3. If you are going to be staining, painting or varnishing the wood, do so before assembly.
4. Lay the backing board on a flat surface and position the frames. Use wood glue and panel pins to attach the frame to the backing board.
5. Divide the inner section of the backing board into three equal sections from side to side and top to bottom. Mark off straight lines at these points. Cut the vertical battens to length and affix with wood glue and panel pins.



Bosch Tacker Fastening materials without effort

Use it for fastening panels and hard fibre board with the utmost ease and efficiency. Quick stapling of insulating and decorative materials. Can be adapted to suit the material using the electronic impact control feature.

dreamy bedrooms

Some homeowners spend a fortune on decorating their homes, only to leave out the bedroom. Because it's a private space, this room is sometimes the last to get our decorating attention.

This is a place you should love to spend time in, an indulgent oasis and welcoming haven from the stresses of the day. It should be a room that offers relaxing space where you can close the door to the world.

Keep Your Calm

Interior designers advise restful shades and a soothing, monochromatic palette to keep the mood subdued. Soft greens, blues and lavenders create a feeling of calmness and serenity, while rich, lush hues like



ABOVE: A collectible basket-weave chest serves as storage for books and magazines that would otherwise make the room appear cluttered.

persimmon, brown and amber envelop you in cosy warmth.

In Proportion

Unless your bedroom is huge, large pieces of furniture are not an option. If your ceilings are low, for instance, opt for a low headboard instead of a four-poster that reaches for the stars (and dwarfs the room). Before buying furniture, make a simple, to-scale sketch of your bedroom as well as paper cutouts of the furnishings you're considering. That way, you can be sure ahead of time that everything fits and that the scale of various pieces

Storage Wise

Having a place to store everything imparts a sense of calmness and order, so integrate hidden storage wherever you can.

- Choose bedside tables that offer sufficient storage for books, magazines, and other sundry items.
- A trunk or blanket chest at the foot of the bed is perfect for storing extra bedding and pillows when they're not in use.

- A headboard with built-in shelves or sliding panels, or a bed with slide-out drawers underneath can cleverly conceal bedding, clothing, shoes and the like.

For smaller bedrooms, use only the furniture you absolutely need: A bed, nightstands, and a small side table.

Shed Some Light

For a flattering and romantic atmosphere, layer lighting throughout the room. In a bedroom, just as in any other space, you need ambient (ceiling-mounted) lighting to illuminate the entire room; task lighting (bedside) to provide focused light for reading and other activities; and accent lighting (wall sconces) to add drama, wash the room in

soft illumination and lend a cosy, welcoming vibe.

Lights at different levels and in different areas create a mood that's pleasing and romantic.

Make sure lighting is adjustable, too:

- Bedside lamps with pivoting arms let you direct light exactly where you need it.
- Dimmers allow you to adjust levels depending on the time of day and the mood you want.
- Having lights on separate switches lets you customise the level of illumination.



Sensual Touch

The bedroom, more than any other space in your home, should be a tactile and sensual wonderland. Adorn the bed with plush pillows, sumptuous sheets and cosy covers.

Bedding isn't the only place for tactile treats in the bedroom: Drape a sinfully soft cashmere throw over the arm of your reading chair; hang silk sheers or substantial curtains from a canopy bed; and create a soft landing by placing a plush rug at your bedside or by splurging on soft, natural-fiber carpeting for the bedroom.

If you like the look of gauzy, transparent curtains that filter light and billow in the breeze, pair them with opaque roller blinds that can be pulled down to maintain privacy at night and to block morning light.

gingham style

Gingham's soft pattern has delighted decorators for years. Mimic the look of the classic fabric by painting a base coat, then dragging a squeegee comb over the paint.

You will need:

- Prominent Paints Universal Primer
- Prominent Paints Sheen - White, Lavender
- Prominent Paints Scumble Glaze
- Glaze coat - clear, gloss
- Paint brushes, roller and tray
- Masking tape
- Squeegee with rubber blade cut into "teeth"*
- Straightedge and craft knife
- Lint-free cloth

Here's how:

1. Remove any knobs or pulls from the unfinished dresser. Remove drawers. Prime the dresser and drawers. Do not paint the interior sides of the dresser or drawers because the wood may swell and cause the drawers to stick or slide hard. Let the paint dry thoroughly. (Instead of an unfinished dresser, an existing painted furniture piece can be used. Scrape away any loose paint, sand, clean, and prime.)
2. Base-coat the dresser and drawers with the white Sheen paint. Let dry.
3. Tape off the edges of every drawer front, pressing the tape firmly for a crisp edge.
4. Prepare a 1:1 mixture of lavender sheen paint and scumble glaze. Pour some of the mixture into a paint tray. With a medium roller, apply the lavender glaze to a drawer front.
5. Immediately pull the notched squeegee across the drawer front to remove some of the glaze-paint mixture. Wipe the squeegee with a lint-free cloth, then drag the tool perpendicular to the first squeegee marks to make a gingham pattern. Wipe the rubber blade clean. Continue to paint and squeegee the drawer fronts one at a time. Let dry. Remove tape.

Finishing

Apply one or two coats of water-base Glaze Coat to the dresser and drawers, letting it dry thoroughly between coats.

Paint drawer knobs or pulls with undiluted lavender paint. Let dry. If desired, use the white paint to paint polka dots or other simple shapes on the lavender knobs. Screw the knobs or pulls to the drawers. Put the drawers back into the dresser.



TIP: To make a notched squeegee to create a combing tool for the gingham pattern, use the straightedge and fine-tip marking pen to measure and mark the rubber blade every 5mm. Cut out every other notch with a crafts knife.



give winter a warm welcome

This winter don't compromise on style and quality. Home Comforts have an unbelievable range of furnishings and accessories for every room in your home - at the most unbelievable prices.

- Printed Lined Taped Curtains from R129.95
- Faux Silk Scatter Cushions from R39.95
- Queen Size Duvet Covers from R179.95
- Double Quilted Bedspreads from R499.95
- Bath Sheets from R69.95
- Embroidered Towels from R39.95
- 20-pc Porcelain Crockery Sets from R129.95
- 24-pc Stainless Steel Cutlery Sets from R199.95

Instant winter decor tips

- Snuggle up on cold winter nights with a thick, warm woven throw, or spoil yourself with a luxurious faux fur throw and add instant colour to any room with a selection of different colours.
- Thick lined curtains in the latest colours - either tab-top, eyelet or pleated - are an easy way to add warmth to a room and keep winter draughts outside. Add red and brown for a cosy, romantic feel, or use deep blue for more drama.
- A quilted bedspread is an affordable and stylish way to add warmth on cold winter nights. Coordinate the look with matching curtains and cushions.

Visit www.homecomforts.co.za for more information.



shoe storage

Nowhere else to put your shoes? This solution couldn't be simpler - a tray on four castors that you simply pull out from under the bed.

You will need:

25 x 50mm pine 370cm long
12mm Supawood 125 x 65cm
Tape measure
Wood glue
12mm wood screws
4 Castors + screws
Drill + 2mm drill bit
Jigsaw or handsaw
Primer, gloss enamel and paintbrush



Here's how:

1. From the 25x50mm pine measure 2 x 120cm and 2 x 65cm battens and cut with a jigsaw or handsaw.
2. Slip the battens on the edge underneath the Supawood. Arrange them neatly. Apply a bead of wood glue to the battens and screw in place.
3. Place one castor at each corner and mark the position. Make pilot holes with a 2mm bit and fit the castors with screws.
4. Apply universal primer to the entire project and leave to dry. Paint the tray with two coats of gloss enamel and allow to dry between coats.



Now pile in those shoes!

Go Shopping! ^{online}

Home-Dzine makes it easy for you to buy your favourite Rust-Oleum products online. For crafts, hobby, home decor accessories and home decorating, the Rust-Oleum American Accents', Painter's Touch and Speciality Ranges supply everything you need.



One product that works on wood, metal, wicker, and even walls and fabric! **Painter's Touch** is available in over **40 colours**. This fast drying spray is extremely durable and resists chipping and fading. Why have to apply up to 7 coats with inferior products when you can apply 2 coats of Painter's Touch.

And what's more, you can even spray at any angle - no runs - no drips - no mess - no fuss!



Visit the Home-Dzine.co.za '**Go Shopping**' for all your hobby, craft and DIY project paint supplies. Order, pay and we deliver within 7-10 days*
**Subject to stock availability at time of order. Delivery times advised for deliveries within Gauteng. For deliveries outside Gauteng these times may differ.*

make
it!



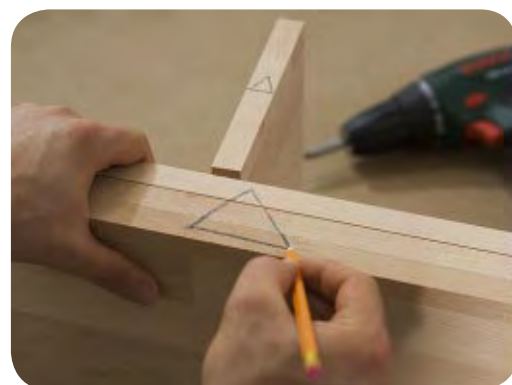
Here's an idea to wash away all doubts: Give your bathroom the latest design look with our minimalist washstand. It sums up the concept that less is more.

designer vanity

You will need:

PG Bison 22mm Laminated Pine Shelving
1 x Countertop 1200 x 480mm
2 x Sides 675 x 460
1 x Centre side panel 240 x 160mm
3 x Shelf bases 1160 x 240mm
1 x Rear panel 1160 x 495mm
1 x Front panel 593 x 190mm
1 x Attachment strip 1150x45x45mm timber
6 x L-shaped brackets 40x40mm
1 x Drawer handle
2 x Drawer sides 400 x 131 x 12mm Supawood
2 x Drawer front/rear 543 x 131 x 12mm Supawood
1 Drawer base 567 x 400 x 3mm Supawood
1 Drawer front 593 x 190 x 19mm Supawood
Flat head screws 4 x 45 mm
Flat head screws 4 x 35 mm
30 Flat head screws 3 x 25 mm
24 Flat head screws 4 x 17 mm
Folding rule, soft pencil, rubber, pencil sharpener
Screw clamps
Wood glue, sponge, if necessary
Dowel marking points, if necessary
Woodoc wood stain, paintbrush or cloth rag
Tools: Jigsaw, Sander + 120- to 240-grit sanding pads, Drill + bits + countersink, Cordless screwdriver

Visit the Directory on the back page to download the Construction Diagram for this project.



Here's how:

1. Join upper shelf panels and centre side panel together. Arrange the two upper shelf panels and centre side panel on their leading edges to form a double T-beam in the way you want to screw them together. Now use a pencil to mark the rear edges so that you always know what goes where at a later stage of assembly.

Draw the centre crossline on both shelf panels with a pencil. The holes used for screwing the centre side panel are positioned along this line. Always place the centring tip of the wood drill bit precisely on this line. Drill two holes in each shelf panel and countersink the holes from outside. Now assemble the double T-beam using the cordless screwdriver and screws (4x45).

2. Join together the double T-beam and the third shelf panel together with the side panels. Place together the parts mentioned on their display sides as you want to assemble them. Once again, make a note of their positions. Carefully draw outlines of all three shelf panels inside the two side panels.

Using drill, insert three holes in the centre of each of these outlines for fastening the shelf panels to the side panels. Countersink from outside and use screwdriver and screws (4x45) to fit side and shelf panels.

To attach rear panel, lay the shelf structure onto your work surface. Push rear panel into place where you want to fit it behind the shelves. From the front of the shelves, use a pencil to draw the outlines of the lower and centre shelf panel on the rear panel and then remove the panel again. Drill five holes in the centre of each of the outlines. You can then fit the rear panel with flat head screws (4x45).

3. The countertop is fastened with screws from below through the top shelf panel. First predrill the holes and countersink them from below. Align the countertop precisely on the carcass and fit using flat head screws (4x35). At the back, attach the countertop to the side panels with L-shaped brackets. You must take into account the location of the wash basin, the opening for the wash basin in the countertop and possibly in the top shelf panel. Make this opening once this particular step is complete.

The front panel is mounted with angle (L-shaped) brackets. Screw on using pan-head screws (3x17) so they are flush with leading edges, as far up and as far down as you can place them on the centre side panel and the side panel.



DIY TIP

IN THE PIECE OF BOARD WHERE YOU WANT TO INSERT THE SCREWS FIRST, ALWAYS PREDRILL A HOLE THAT IS 0.5 TO 1 MM LARGER THAN THE SCREW DIAMETER; THE HOLE SHOULD BE COUNTERSUNK FOR THE SCREW HEAD. IN THE PIECE THAT YOU ARE GOING TO DRILL SECOND, PREDRILL A HOLE THAT IS ALWAYS 1 MM SMALLER THAN THE SCREW DIAMETER.



Attach front panel. To do this, place the structure on its back and align front panel with carcass so that there is a 5-mm gap between the outer edge of the right-hand side panel and a 5-mm gap between the lower edge of the centre shelf panel. Secure the front panel in this position using clamp clips and fasten it with screws from behind (4x17).

Use jigsaw to cut opening for wash basin and required fittings in the countertop, depending on the design and plumbing requirements.

4. Join the drawer sections

For gluing corner joints using dowel centre points, or a dowel jig. Measurements and markings alone will not be sufficient to position dowel holes precisely enough so that they lie exactly flush with each other. A dowel template is a metal pin with marking point. You insert this pin into the holes on the front side so that you can transfer their positions. To do this, you press the predrilled workpiece in position so that its edges are exactly flush with the surface of its counterpart.

Align the drawer sections to form a box shape, with the top facing downwards. The front and rear sections are enclosed between the sides. Use a triangular symbol to mark all of the sections so that you always know what goes where. Drill two 6-mm holes for the dowels in the faces of both the front and rear sections. Insert dowel centres in the holes and copy their positions to the insides of the drawer sides.

Dab glue into dowel holes in front and rear section and insert 6mm dowels. Dab glue into holes in sides and on their glue surfaces. Assemble drawer sections and press the joints with clamp clips until the glue is dry. Wipe away any excess glue immediately with a damp cloth. When pressing the joints, make sure that the drawer sections are at exact right angles.

Lay the frame (consisting of the front section, rear section and sides) with top facing downwards on your work surface. Align the base so that it lies flush on top of the drawer. Use flat head screws (4x17) to mount the base using predrilled holes.

Finally, mount the front of the drawer. You must first determine its exact location on the front section of the drawer. To do this, attach double-sided tape to the front section and push the drawer into its carcass compartment. You can now align the drawer front precisely on the carcass, pushing the drawer firmly from behind and then carefully pulling it forward together with the front, which is now attached to the tape.

Fasten the drawer front with screws (4x35) on the inside.



ABOVE: Dowel centres



ABOVE: A simple dowelling jig

Finally, drill the holes for the drawer handle in the drawer front following the manufacturer's instructions and fit the handle with the screws provided. The drawer is now complete.

5. Take time to treat the surfaces so they are in the best possible working condition before starting assembly. Sand all edges with sanding paper with a grit of 120 or 180 at a 45° angle to create a small bevel. Use your sander to sand all visible surfaces in the direction of the wood grain, first with coarse sanding paper (grit of 120, 180) and then with fine sanding paper (grit of up to 240).

Damp sponge surfaces afterwards to wipe off dust. Some loose wood fibres may protrude while the wood is drying. You can remove these with sanding paper with a grit of 180. The wood is now ready for surface treatment. TIP: Make sure that the sanding paper is sharp enough to remove the wood fibres properly, not just flatten them.

6. Stain the surfaces
Use a stain to colour the wood. The wood stain is generally applied with a brush. After the stain has been applied, the surface of the wood remains unprotected until wax or paint/varnish is applied.

First read the manufacturer's safety and handling instructions thoroughly. Make sure the room you are working in is well ventilated and not used for smoking, eating or drinking.

7. Varnish the surfaces
For the best protection of the surfaces in a bathroom, it is recommended that you apply at least three coats of polyurethane varnish. Apply in accordance with the manufacturer's recommended instructions.

DIY TIPS

USE A WOOD DRILL BIT TO DRILL HOLES WITH THE DOWEL RADIUS INTO THE TWO PIECES THAT YOU WANT TO JOIN. THE TWO DRILLING DEPTHS SHOULD AMOUNT TO THE DOWEL LENGTH PLUS 2 MM. NEVER DRILL A HOLE THAT IS DEEPER THAN TWO THIRDS OF THE MATERIAL THICKNESS.



bosch



PRIO - the first cordless multi-sander from Bosch: Take "cable" out of your vocabulary!

The versatile cordless multi-sander with lithium-ion technology

- The flexible solution for sanding and polishing, even in hard-to-reach areas and on small surfaces
- The latest lithium-ion battery technology for full power at low weight
- No memory effect, no self-discharge: always ready for use thanks to lithium-ion technology
- Two-piece sanding plate: for optimum utilisation of the sanding paper, the delta tip of the sanding paper and of the sanding plate can be effortlessly detached and rotated

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WIN

a new **BOSCH XEO Universal Cutter**



Cuts anything, anytime

Decoration materials, cardboard or carpet: the cordless universal cutters from Bosch enable you to effortlessly and quickly cut all different kinds of flexible materials at any time – without a cable.



To win this handy Bosch XEO Universal Cutter - send us an email at home-dzine@iburst.co.za and tell us more about your favourite craft or hobby.



Do you want to make a project but don't know where to start? Or perhaps you want to tackle home repairs but are scared of doing it the wrong way?

Home-Dzine.co.za, Janice Anderssen, Nancy Muchangwa and Jenny Tomlinson bring you DIY Divas



DIY Divas offers practical training and hands-on sessions that will empower you with the confidence, knowledge and skills required to undertake your own home repairs, improvements, renovations or DIY projects with safety in mind, and the confidence of knowing and understanding the basic tools and techniques required.

To ultimately have the satisfaction of knowing that you "Did It Yourself!"

Visit DIY-Divas for more information on courses for Power Tools, Basic Woodworking Techniques, and Home Repairs





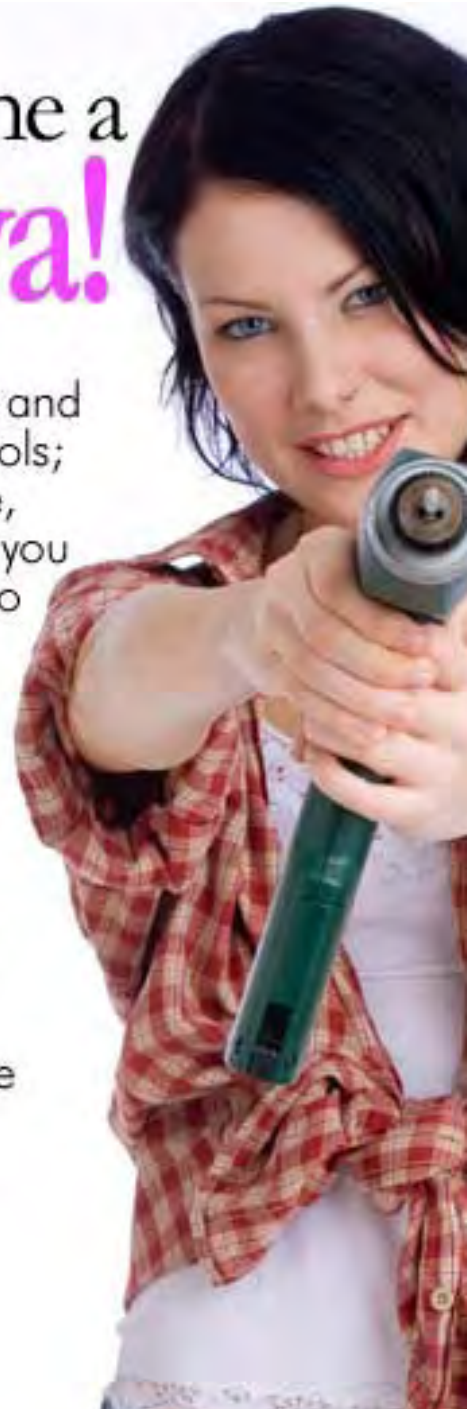
How to become a **DIY Diva!**

Sign up for the DIY Diva Training Programme and find out all you need to know about Power Tools; from a Drill/Driver to a circular saw - safe use, techniques and tricks of the trade. We'll show you how to handle tools confidently and be able to do your own projects, home repairs or improvements.

Or join our Basic Woodworking Course and learn how to make and finish your own DIY projects professionally. Perfect for homeowners planning to do their own home improvements!

And now we are introducing a range of Home Repair courses that are designed in modules to cover almost any home repair task: from tiling to replacing tap seals.

CLICK FOR MORE INFORMATION



What our Divas say...

"Training was absolutely awesome and I enjoyed it tremendously. It gave me confidence to tackle my DIY projects head on. I want my power tools in pink ! Janice, thanks indeed for a wonderful saturday. We will definitely come again." - **Nadja & Lucia**

"Thanks so much – I thoroughly enjoyed the course and have already recommended it to many other women! It's nice to be totally in control of one's life – including the aspect of using power tools! Am so looking forward to the next course!" - **Claire**

"Janice, all in all – I had a lovely day. The other positive thing about attending various courses is the fact that one meets new people again and invariably people with the same interests and with new and fresh ideas." - **Estelle**

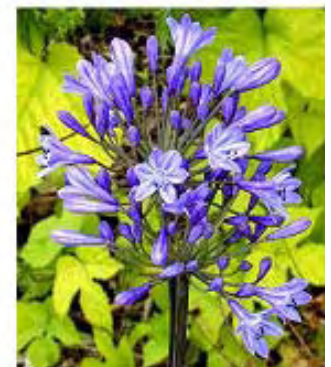
Garden Mail

GardenShop's Monthly eZine



May 2008

- Continue to plant spring-flowering bulbs, making sure you place them at the right depth and in the correct position for optimum flowering.
- Plant tulip bulbs now.
- Lift and store dahlia tubers as soon as their foliage has been blackened by the first frost alternatively cut the hollow stems back down to about 10cm (4in) above the tuber.
- Protect conifers from Aphids with Eds Health Meridian for Conifers every four to five weeks throughout autumn and winter for the Italian cypress aphid and water them regularly.
- Reduce the amount of watering of water on your Kikuyu lawns; twice a month will be sufficient.
- Water plants more sparingly now conditions are turning cooler and make sure there is good circulation around their foliage, to prevent fungal diseases.
- Buds on autumn flowering shrubs are developing so make sure you keep them fertilised and watered.
- Houseplants should be watered less frequently as temperatures drop.
- Lift and divide overcrowded perennials like dietes, daylilies, asters and agapanthus.
- Sow cool season lawns like Shade Over and All Seasons Evergreen.
- Sow vegetables like broad beans, kale, lettuce, radish and spinach.
- Plant seedlings like Primula, Pansy, Stocks, Cineraria, Poppies, Foxgloves and Petunias.
- Fruit trees can be planted between autumn and spring although species which need warmth (apricot or peach trees) should not be planted until after the winter.



[Click here to open the GardenShop May 2008 eZine](#)

love seat

Got some scrap timber lying around? You don't need much to knock up this handy little bench to relax in a quiet spot in the garden. And you can easily make this project from start to finish in a day!

easy!

You will need:

- [1] 350 x 1500mm length of pine (seat)
 - [2] 350 x 500mm length of pine (legs)
 - [4] 20 x 20mm x 300mm length battens
 - [2] Corner angles of pine as supports
- Exterior paint or sealer for finishing
Wood screws

Tools: Jigsaw, multi sander, drill + 10mm wood bit

Here's how:

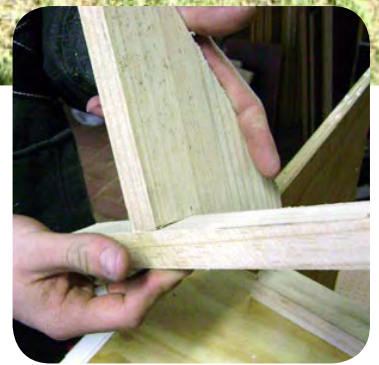
1. Sand all the edges smooth before assembly.
2. Draw a heart shape onto both legs. Use a 10mm drill bit to make a hole in which to insert the jigsaw blade, and then cut out the shape. Do the same to cut out a hole in the bench seat. Sand all edges.
3. Lay the 1500mm length of pine on a flat surface. Position the legs and place the battens on the outer side. Use a bead of wood glue on the battens and screw to the underside of the bench. Add another bead of glue and screw the legs to the outer battens.
4. Attach the inner batten in the same way as the outer batten. On the corner angles, use a jigsaw to cut out a block to allow the corner to fit over the inner batten. Attach the corner angle to the legs, and to the underside of the bench by inserting a screw at an angle.

DIY TIP:

USE A SIDE PLATE, OR AN EMPTY PAINT CAN, AS A TEMPLATE TO MARK A CIRCLE.

Finishing

To create an aged effect the entire bench was painted with Prominent Paints Sheen - Hunter's Green - and the edges sanded back to reveal the wood. To provide protection use Rust-Oleum Polyurethane Spray Varnish, or a suitable exterior varnish.



Q zone

Send your Q & A for decor, decorating and DIY dilemmas to home-dzine@iburst.co.za.

CEILING INSULATION

Q. Libuseng

I have a double story home with the ground floor roof made of concrete slab. This ground floor is much colder in winter than the first floor. Are there any ideal products out there I can look at? I thought of using the ISO Board but I am not sure if it's a suitable product. May I also add that, whatever product I choose will have to work with the moulded cornices that I have in the house - without taking them out if possible.

A. Janice

I also have a double storey with a concrete slab. I have found that 'Think Pink' has worked fantastic. Not only is the house warmer in winter, but the upper storey is much cooler in summer. The best part was this it wasn't expensive. It worked out at R700.00 per roll, which is cut into sections that fit between the ceiling beams. You won't have to touch the mouldings!



DECOR FOR A SHARED BEDROOM

Q. Vanash

My children share a bedroom. Matthew is 5 and his sister, Elisa is 2.5 years. We have 3 bedrooms but 1 will eventually become the master suite in another wing of the house (quite far away from the other 2 bedrooms). Because they are still small, my hubby & I prefer to have them close by especially at night which means that they will have to share a bedroom for a while. My problem is choosing a colour scheme, theme and decor that is suitable for both children and grow with them. I want the room to be fun and colourful. At the moment, the room has white BICs & blue carpet which I would prefer to leave as is. They also have a bunk bed at the moment but I am thinking of having this bed separated to form 2 single beds painted in white. Can u help?

A. Janice

- As the children are now out of the 'baby' phase you can experiment with primary colours: bright red, blue, green and yellow. Bold colours will also allow your children to grow in the room without having to decorate all the time.

- If you can avoid it, don't split up the bunk beds just yet - unless of course the room is very large.

There are so many schemes from which to choose: jungle or zoo, circus, under the sea, and so on. And both children will enjoy a generalised scheme that is neither male or female. If the BIC is white and the carpet is blue, you are free to go with almost any primary colour you wish. What might be a good idea, especially from a parent point of view, would be to paint the top half of the wall in yellow or light blue and the lower half of the room in a darker colour (red). This will make the room easier to keep clean. Another good idea is to paint a section of the lower wall with blackboard paint so that both children can express their creativity - without making mess.

REPAIR A PATIO SWING

Q. Robyn

We have a patio swing set (made of aluminium and a type of canvas). The seat has perished in the sun and is now torn. Who can I contact to repair this seat? I would think the fabric just needs to be replaced with some heavy duty weatherproof fabric, even shade cloth? Do I look for upholsterers or for carport installers. What fabric do I ask them for?

Since it is difficult to transport the swing, I was hoping to find someone with a handheld portable heavy duty sewing machine, who could recover the swing seat for me at my premises. (Thus I thought about carport or awning guys but have not had any joy with the few that I have made contact with).

Q. Janice

I'm sure it's going to be difficult to get anyone out to do the job, as there isn't much money in it for them!

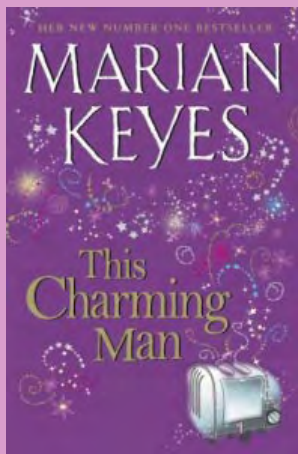
I might have come up with an alternative. Use a heavy-weave shade or nylon sail cloth. Get yourself an eyelet kit - this is normally the hoops and the punch. Once you've made the holes, use nylon twine to weave through and tie off. This will be more than strong enough, and easy to replace when it wears again.

bookz

After a hard day at work there can be nothing more relaxing than to retreat to the bathroom, lock the door, run a hot bubble bath, and catch up on the latest good reads...



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If you've read any of Marian Keyes' previous titles, you'll know why I absolutely loved this one. If you haven't yet discovered this wonderful writer, this book is definitely a "must read!"

Lola has every reason to be interested in who Paddy's marrying – because although she's his girlfriend, she definitely isn't the bride-to-be. Heartbroken, she flees the city for a cottage by the sea. But will Lola's retreat prove as idyllic as she hopes?

Not if journalist Grace has anything to do with it. She wants the inside story on the de Courcy engagement and thinks Lola holds the key. Grace knew Paddy a long time ago. But why can't she forget him?

Grace's sister, Marnie, might have the answer but she also has issues with the past. Her family is wonderful but they can't take away memories of her first love: a certain Paddy de Courcy. What will it take for Marnie to be able to move on?

And what of the future Mrs de Courcy ... Alicia is determined to be the perfect politician's wife. But does she know the real Paddy de Courcy?

Four very different women. One awfully charming man. And the dark secret that binds them all..

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A delightfully refreshing book full of culinary delights...

For six years, Myriam has been living in self-imposed exile, cut off from her cool, reserved husband and from the son she found herself unable to love, and the opening night of Chez Moi is typically desolate. But little by little her mouth-watering dishes draw people in. As the restaurant sizzles towards success, figures and feelings from the past also begin to emerge, gradually re-awakening her appetite for life, both the bitter parts and the sweet.

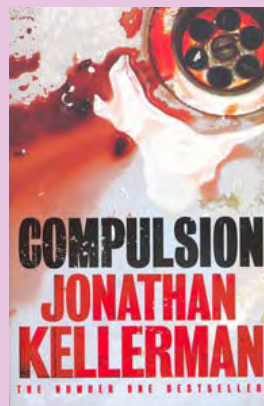
RRP: R170

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This is the first Linda Fairstein book that I have read and thoroughly enjoyed the way that she goes into details not normally offered to the reader.



Jonathan Kellerman fans will not be disappointed as LAPD Detective Milo Sturgis and psychologist Alex Delaware are called to the scene of a bizarre 'crime'. To unmask the killer, Alex and Milo will have to confront the true face of murderous compulsion ...



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2. RUSTY METAL PRIMER SPRAY

Rust-Oleum Stops Rust® Rusty Metal Primer Spray stops rust and prevents corrosion. Apply to heavily rusted metal (use Rust-Oleum Stops Rust Clean Metal Primer on clean or lightly rusted metal). Bonds tightly to rust to form a surface top coats can adhere to.



3. SPECIALITY HIGH HEAT SPRAY

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