

DIY planter

WORDS & PHOTOS **MARK RAYNER**

You will need:

- 25mm treated plywood measuring 430mm x 430mm
- 12 pieces treated tongue and groove landscaping timber cut to 480mm
- 4 pieces 90mm x 20mm treated timber cut to 550mm
- 4 pieces 70mm x 20mm treated timber cut to 550mm
- 4 pieces 70mm x 20mm treated timber cut to 580mm
- 4 pieces 70mm x 20mm treated timber cut to 410mm
- 65mm exterior screws
- Clean cloth
- Drill with 20mm drill bit
- Exterior filler
- Paintbrush
- Pencil
- Putty knife or similar
- Resene Lumbersider tinted to Resene Double Dutch White
- Resene Quick Dry
- Sanding block
- Sandpaper
- Saw
- Screwdriver
- Tape measure

Step one

Measure, mark and cut the timber and plywood to the dimensions listed above.

Step two

Mitre the ends of the four 580mm lengths of timber to 45 degrees, as shown.

Step three

Assemble the 12 pieces of tongue and groove landscaping timber to form the main body of the planter, as shown. Fix at each corner with 65mm screws, countersinking the screw heads.

Step four

Fix each layer of tongue and groove together at each corner with a 65mm screw, driven in at an angle, as shown. Again, countersink the screw head.

Step five

Turn the planter over so that the 'groove' edge is uppermost and attach the four mitred pieces of timber to the top, as shown. Fix with 65mm screws, countersinking the screw heads.

Step six

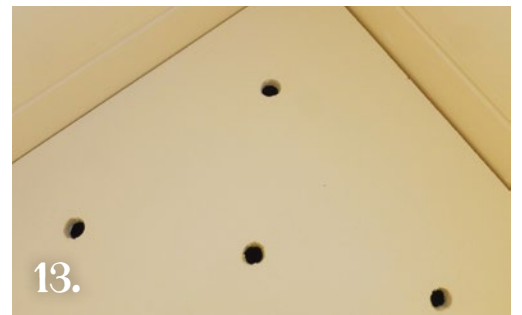
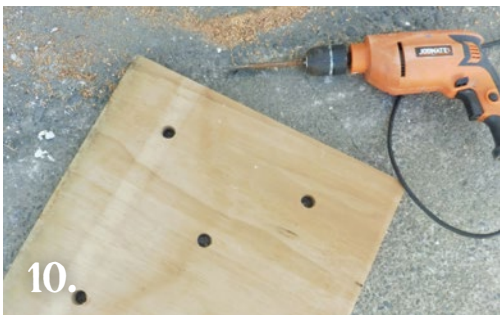
Attach the eight 550mm lengths of timber along each corner edge of the planter, as shown. Fix with 65mm screws, countersinking the screw heads.

Step seven

Attach the four 410mm lengths of timber along the inside bottom edge of the planter, as shown – this will support the plywood base. Fix with 65mm screws, countersinking the screw heads.







To get the look: the background wall was painted with Resene Lumbersider tinted to Resene Dutch White.

Step eight

Fill the screw heads and any other imperfections with exterior filler and allow to dry.

Step nine

Sand the filler and smooth any rough edges on the planter and plywood with sandpaper. Wipe off any sanding residue with a clean cloth.

Step ten

Drill five 20mm drainage holes in the plywood, as shown, smoothing any rough edges with sandpaper.

Step eleven

Apply one coat of Resene Quick Dry to all surfaces of the planter and the piece of plywood. Allow to dry.

Step twelve

Apply two coats of Resene Lumbersider tinted to Resene Double Dutch White to all surfaces of the planter and the piece of plywood. Allow two hours for each coat to dry.

Step thirteen

Place the piece of plywood in the base of the planter.

To finish off we filled the planter with good quality potting mix, planted a standard *Loropetalum chinensis* 'Plum Delight' and topped with white gravel mulch.

Here's another idea

Leave out the plywood base and this planter could also be used as a mini raised bed. Simply fill with topsoil or potting mix and position directly on bare soil.