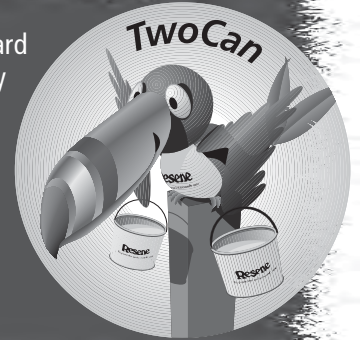


“ Now where did that year go??? I'm sure someone must have pushed the fast forward button somewhere along the way. With the end of the year coming up fast it's time to try and clear up those last jobs before some much needed holiday time arrives.

But before I go, I'd like to pass on a huge thank you from all the Resene team for your support this year. It's certainly been an interesting year and we've been delighted to be able to help you work on your projects. We wish you and your family and friends a safe and happy holiday period and look forward to working with you in the New Year. ”



SEASONS GREETINGS !

And to send you all out on a cheery note, here's a few Christmas funnies to get you smiling...

What to give an optimist and a pessimist

A family had twin boys whose only resemblance to each other was their looks. If one felt it was too hot, the other thought it was too cold. If one said the TV was too loud, the other claimed the volume needed to be turned up. Opposite in every way, one was an eternal optimist, the other a doom and gloom pessimist.

Just to see what would happen, at Christmas time their father loaded the pessimist's room with every imaginable toy and game. The optimist's room he loaded with horse manure.

That night the father passed by the pessimist's room and found him sitting amid his new gifts crying bitterly.

"Why are you crying?" the father asked.

"Because my friends will be jealous, I'll have to read all these instructions before I can do anything with this stuff, I'll constantly need batteries, and my toys will eventually get broken." answered the pessimist twin.



Passing the optimist twin's room, the father found him dancing for joy in the pile of manure. "What are you so happy about?" he asked.

To which his optimist twin replied, "There's got to be a pony in here somewhere!"



A MUM'S LETTER TO SANTA

Dear Santa,

I've been a good mum all year. I've fed, cleaned and cuddled my two children on demand, visited the doctor's office more than my doctor, sold sixty-two cases of chocolate bars to raise money to plant a shade tree on the school playground and figured out how to attach nine patches onto my daughter's girl scout sash with staples and a glue gun.

I was hoping you could spread my list out over several Christmases, since I had to write this letter with my son's red crayon, on the back of a receipt in the laundry room between cycles, and who knows when I'll find anymore free time in the next 18 years.

Here are my Christmas wishes:

I'd like a pair of legs that don't ache after a day of chasing kids (in any colour, except purple, which I already have) and arms that don't flap in the breeze but are strong enough to carry a screaming toddler out of the lolly aisle in the grocery store. I'd also like a waist, since I lost mine somewhere in the seventh month of my last pregnancy. If you're hauling big ticket items this year I'd like a car with fingerprint resistant windows and a radio that only plays adult music; a television that doesn't broadcast any programs containing talking animals; and a refrigerator with a secret compartment where I can hide to talk on the phone.

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On the practical side, I could use a talking daughter doll that says, "Yes, Mummy" to boost my parental confidence, along with one potty-trained toddler, two kids who don't fight and three pairs of jeans that will zip all the way up without the use of power tools. I could also use a recording of Tibetan monks chanting, "Don't eat in the living room" and "Take your hands off your brother," because my voice seems to be just out of my children's hearing range and can only be heard by the dog. And please don't forget the Playdoh Travel Pack, the hottest stocking stuffer this year for mothers of preschoolers. It comes in three fluorescent colours and is guaranteed to crumble on any carpet making the in-laws' house seem just like mine.

If it's too late to find any of these products, I'd settle for enough time to brush my teeth and comb my hair in the same morning, or the luxury of eating food warmer than room temperature without it being served in a takeaway container. If you don't mind I could also use a few Christmas miracles to brighten the holiday season. Would it

be too much trouble to declare tomato sauce a vegetable? It will clear my conscience immensely. It would be helpful if you could coerce my children to help around the house without demanding payment as if they were the bosses of an organised crime family; or if my toddler didn't look so cute sneaking downstairs to eat contraband ice cream in his pajamas at midnight.

Well, Santa, the buzzer on the dryer is ringing and my son saw my feet under the laundry room door. I think he wants his crayon back. Have a safe trip and remember to leave your wet boots by the chimney and come in and dry off by the fire so you don't catch a cold. Help yourself to cookies on the table but don't eat too many or leave crumbs on the carpet.

Yours in hope... Mum.

P.S. One more thing... you can cancel all my requests if you can keep my children young enough to believe in Santa.

Buy your own gift

Last Christmas, grandpa was feeling his age, and found that shopping for Christmas gifts had become too difficult. So he decided to send gift vouchers to everyone instead.

In each card he wrote, "Buy your own present!" and mailed them early.

He enjoyed the usual flurry of family festivities, and it was only after the holiday that he noticed that he had received very few cards in return. Puzzled over this, he went into his study, intending to write a couple of his relatives and ask what had happened. It was then, as he cleared off his cluttered desk that he got his answer. Under a stack of papers, he was horrified to find the gift vouchers which he had forgotten to enclose with the cards.



End of year roundup



It's been yet another busy year with new services, products, colours and more to create, make and innovate.

2011 could almost have been called the Resene year of wood – with new **Resene Qristal ClearFloor 1K and 2K wood finishes** for your floor, a whole host of new **Resene Woodsman Decking Stain** colours plus CoolColour options for your decking, a new whitewash look with **Resene Colorwood Whitewash**, plus **Resene Colorwood Enhance** to make your wooden projects look even better.

Technical... also busy solving some other problems... such as how to stop those annoying stains bleeding through your paintwork? ... simple, use **Resene StainLock** that was launched this year. And how to avoid the fumes of solventborne **Resene Uracryl** when you're after a clear coat? Easy now you can use waterborne **Resene Uracryl GraffitiShield**.

And then just for something a little different we launched **Resene Fresh Air**, which is a finish coat that helps break down pollution in the air. How that's fresh thinking.

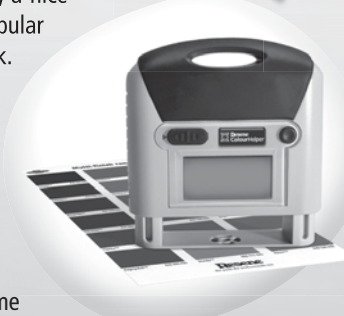


Plus our website has won more Hitwise awards for being a popular place to visit so if you haven't popped in to see it, come and have a look online at www.resene.co.nz (NZ) or www.resene.com.au (Aust) and give some of the colour and technical tools a try.

On the colour side of things the handy whites and neutrals palettes sprung up at your latest **Resene ColorShop** or **Reseller**, a nice and easy way to quickly check out these popular colours without needing the whole fandeck. Plus those helpful **Resene ColourHelpers** sure have helped make it easier to find close Resene colours quickly.

And that's just the highlights package of what has been another busy year!

We'll catch you again next year with more news and info and in the meantime we hope you and your family and friends enjoy a superb and safe holiday break.



That's all for now – catch ya in 2012!

TwoCan, Editor.

