# GREEN SEED DRAWERS

**Mark Rayner** shows you how to go green with this nifty seed storage unit constructed mostly from recycled materials.

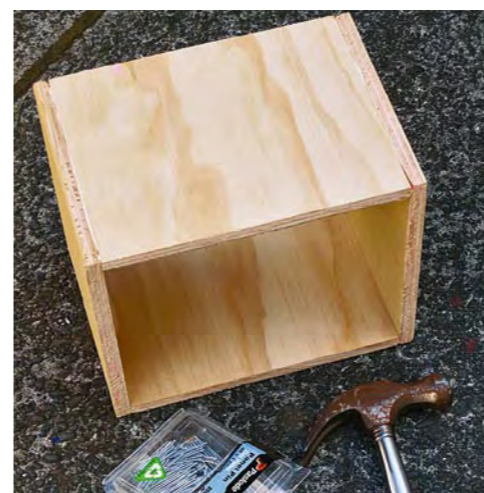## OLD WOODEN BOX

An old wooden drawer (disassembled)

Offcuts of 12mm plywood

Offcuts of 10mm x 10mm timber (we used an old garden stake)

Panel pins

Drill and drillbits

Hammer

Saw

Sandpaper

Set square

Paintbrush

Pencil

Ruler

PVA glue

Resene Quick Dry

Resene Lustacryl tinted to Resene Howzat

**1.** Measure, mark and cut the old wooden box in half, to make the insides of the two seed drawers.

**2.** Place one seed drawer on top of the other (as they will fit inside the unit). Measure the width plus 4mm (measurement 'A'), the depth (measurement 'B') and the height plus 45mm (measurement 'C'). Cut two pieces of plywood measuring 'A' x 'B' and two pieces of plywood measuring 'B' x 'C'.

**3.** Smooth any rough edges on the plywood and the sawn box with sandpaper.

**4.** Assemble the four pieces of plywood, as shown, attaching along each length 'B'. Fix with PVA glue and panel pins (drill pilot holes first to prevent plywood from splitting). Use the set square to ensure corners are at right angles.

**5.** Measure, mark and cut two drawer runners from the 10mm x 10mm timber. Place one of the drawers inside the plywood unit and draw a pencil line along each side. Using this pencil line as a guide, fix the runners in place with PVA glue. Allow glue to dry.

**6.** Using the base of the old wooden drawer, measure, mark and cut a piece to fit the back of the plywood box. Smooth rough edges with sandpaper and fix into position with PVA glue and panel pins (again, drill pilot holes first).

**7.** Measure, mark and cut two thin pieces of plywood (or offcuts of 10mm x 10mm timber) to form the base supports of the seed box. Fix these with PVA and allow glue to dry.
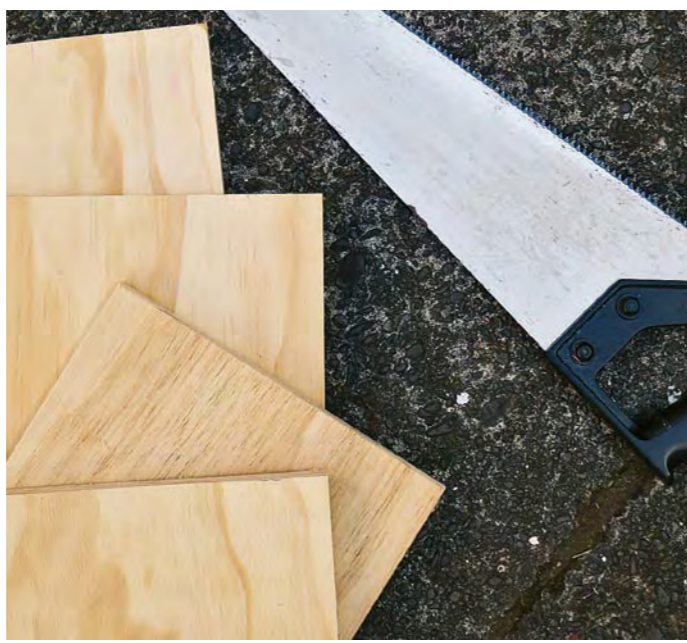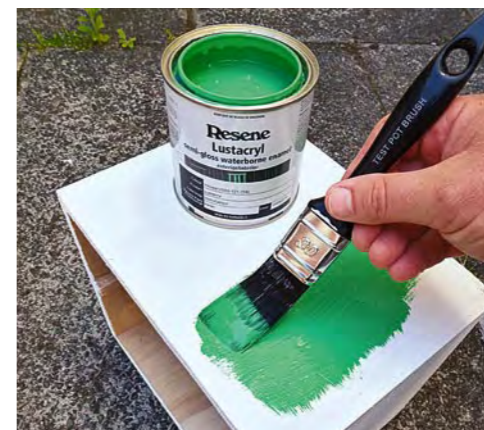
**8.** Slide drawers into position and then measure, mark and cut two drawer fronts from the front or sides of the old wooden drawer. Smooth rough edges with sandpaper and then glue drawers to drawer fronts with a generous amount of PVA, as shown. Allow glue to firm up.

**9.** Cut two handles from offcuts of plywood or 10mm x 10mm timber and smooth rough edges with sandpaper. Carefully turn drawers up the other way and fix a handle to the front of each drawer with PVA. Allow glue to dry overnight.

**10.** Paint the front and insides of each drawer and the outside and front edge of the plywood unit with one coat of Resene Quick Dry. Allow two hours to dry.

**11.** Paint the outside and front edge of the plywood unit with two coats of Resene Howzat, allowing two hours for each coat to dry.

**12.** Paint the inside and front of each drawer with two coats of Resene Howzat, allowing two hours for each coat to dry. Slide drawers into position.

## TOP TIP

There should be sufficient clearance to ensure drawers open and close smoothly but if they are a little stiff, sand the sides and rub candlewax along the runners and edges of the plywood unit.

## HERE'S ANOTHER IDEA

Create a small storage box for seeds using recycled wood and hinges from an old cupboard and finish off with Resene Colorwood Whitewash.