Colour your world

It's simple to turn wood scraps into a work of art with the new range of gorgeous Resene Colorwood wash hues.

○ **Resene** Coral Tree
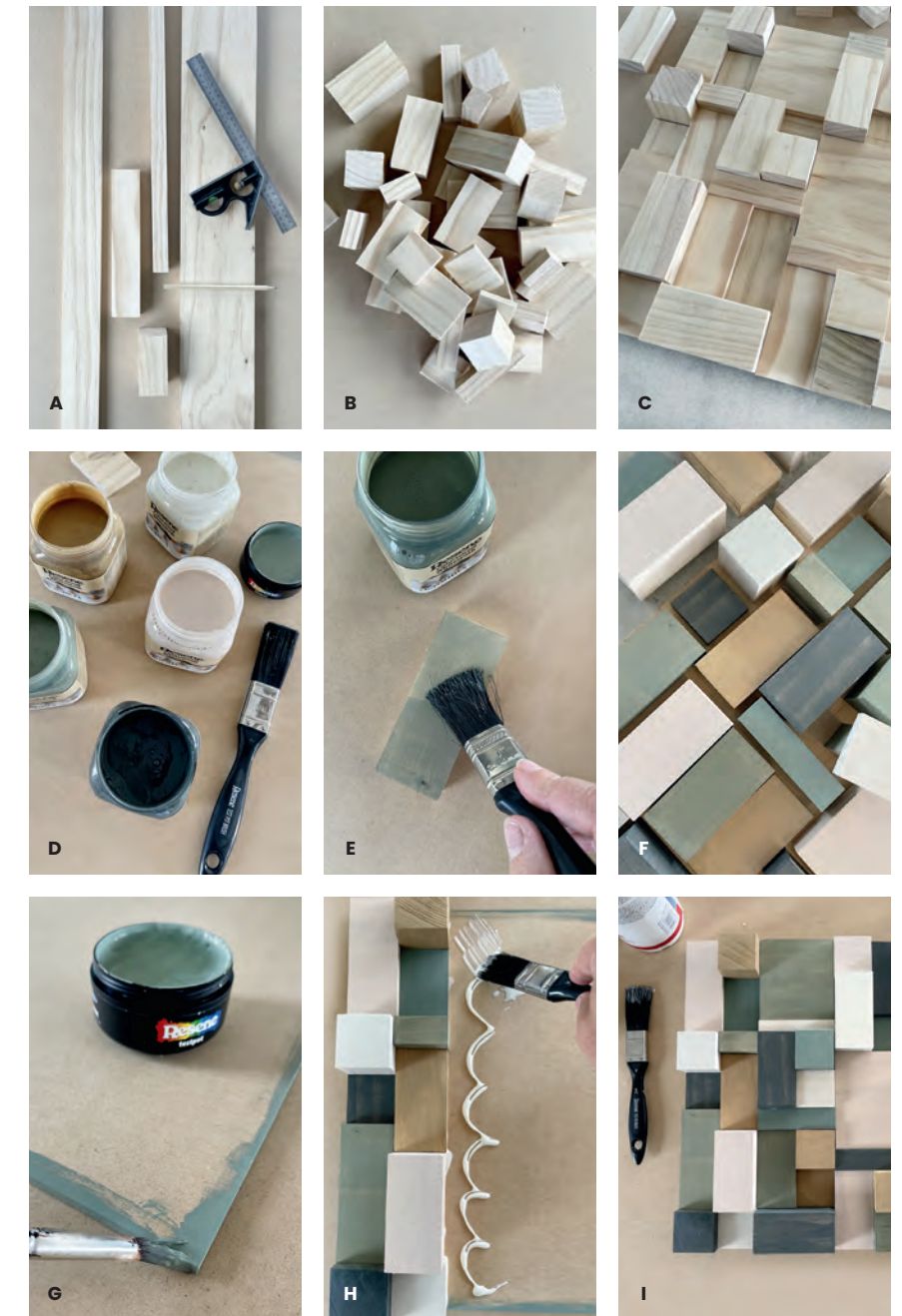
○ **Resene** Merlot

○ **Resene** Half Coriander

CRAFT BY MARSHA SMITH.

You will need

- Resene's new We Speak Beach Colorwood wash hues in:
  Resene Shade
  Resene Breathe Easy
  Resene Becalm
  Resene Bask
  Resene Shore Thing
  Resene Rising Tide
- Testpot in Resene Yucca
- Resene testpot brushes and art brush
- Pieces of pine wood in various thickness (ours were 10-45mm)
- Wood glue
- Sandpaper
- 1 sheet of 4.5mm-thick MDF board
- Electric table saw or hand saw and mitre box
- Square or ruler and pencil

1. Gather pieces of pine wood of various thicknesses to achieve the undulated effect. Use either offcuts or buy lengths of pine to suit (A).

2. Use a square and pencil to mark your cut lines. We made most of our blocks 45 and 90mm lengths and once a pattern was established, we cut pieces to fill in the gaps.

3. Once measured, use a hand or bench saw to cut plenty of blocks. It's better to have more than you need so you can adjust the pattern to work. Lightly sand the cut edges (B).

4. Cut out an MDF backing board with 4.5mm thickness to the size you'd like your final artwork to be. Ours was 55cm squared, but the bigger you go, the more blocks you'll need.

5. Now comes the fun part! Start laying out the blocks on top of the sheet of MDF to create a random pattern, making sure the heights that touch each other vary. Cut extras to fill any spaces (C). Once you are happy, slide your blocks to one side, leaving some space in between but still keeping your pattern visible. Taking a photo beforehand as a reference is a great idea, so if you get messed up, you don't have to guess where everything fits!

6. The key to finishing your blocks of wood is to make sure you don't have the same colours next to each other. The six Resene Colorwood hues from the Resene We Speak Beach series are a perfect mix of shades (D) that complement each other and look perfect as a scattered pattern. To make colouring easy, start with one shade and remove each of these blocks one at a time to coat (E), then place them back in your pattern to dry (F). Make sure you coat the tops and sides of each block.

Step by step

Apply a second coat for a stronger depth of colour.

7. When all blocks are coated and dried, paint the edges of your MDF backing board with two coats of Resene Yucca using a Resene art brush (G).

8. Use a strong wood glue and a Resene testpot brush to spread the glue onto the backing board. Do this in small parts at a time (H).

9. Transfer your painted block pattern onto the backing board, pressing down firmly and making sure there are no gaps (I). Set aside to dry for 24 hours and then you'll be ready to display your Resene masterpiece.

Resene tip:

Because these are small blocks, you can also try applying the Resene Colorwood wash hue with a clean rag. If you want to show more grain in the wood, use only one coat. The more coats you do, the less translucent and stronger the colour will become.

| Resene Shade | Resene Bask | Resene Shore Thing | Resene Breathe Easy | Resene Becalm | Resene Rising Tide |