



CREATIVE LIVING

Potted colour

Express yourself with this artistic dip-dye paint effect.

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Photography Amanda Reelick

This technique is a great way to coordinate mismatched pots without making them look too samey-samey. A bit like painting with watercolours, the dip-dye paint effect allows lots of scope for experimentation.



Preparing your pots

Step 1: Transfer existing soil or plants into buckets or onto a spread out canvas.

Water the plants and leave in the shade.

Step 2: Water blast the pots clean or scrub with soapy water and a stiff brush. For moss or mould, spray with a little Resene Moss & Mould Killer, taking care to first read the safety instructions.

Step 3: Always seal your pot inside and out to stop water coming through and bubbling the paint. Use Resene Terracotta Sealer for terracotta pots or check with Resene ColorShop staff for other pots.

Step 4: Turn the pots upside down and, starting from the base, paint in a neutral shade. Once the bases are dry, turn the pots right side up and finish painting.

Dip-dye effect

Step 1: Lay out paper or a dropcloth to catch any drips. Dilute your lightest shade of paint with just enough water to achieve

The final effect

If you are not satisfied with the result, try adding a little more paint to each layer, or alternatively, wipe the pot back with a wet cloth and try again. It's a fluid technique so have fun experimenting with different watery effects. Try three watery colour layers or mix it up by painting some pots with just one watery shade.



a light wash. Begin about two-thirds up the pot's side, painting a wavy edge around the circumference and down to the base.

Step 2: Dilute the mid-tone with less water than Step 1. Starting well below the top band, use a clean brush to paint around the pot again.

Step 3: Dampen your third brush and paint the darkest shade of paint in a band around the base. Leave the pot upright to dry, allowing the layers to dribble and blend together a little for a subtle, watery dip-dye look. **g**

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Colour me happy
Choose a base shade from Resene's whites and neutrals range. I used Resene SpaceCote Flat in Resene Cararra for a hardwearing enamel finish. If the pots will be outside, use Resene LumberSide. Next, pick three testpots in complementary colours. For these pots I used:
• Resene Kumutoto • Resene Dali
• Resene Norwester



Resene

the paint the professionals use

For more paint, colour ideas and inspiration visit your Resene ColorShop or resene.co.nz

