

DIY Mosaic house number

Mark Rayner finds a new twist to painting by numbers.

You will need

- Red, green and pale green ceramic wall tiles
- Damp sponge
- Clean dry cloth
- Exterior grout
- Container for mixing grout
- Clean water
- Exterior PVA glue
- Tile cutter and tile nippers
- Large, round, terracotta plant saucer
- Paint brushes (including a medium artist's brush)
- Small piece of galvanised wire
- Resene Terracotta sealer
- Resene Lustacryl tinted to Resene Elvis
- Selleys Multipurpose Knead-IT
- Latex gloves
- Pencil



All construction materials for this project came from Mitre 10 Mega and all paint products and brushes came from Resene ColorShop.



1 Seal the plant saucer with one coat of Resene Terracotta Sealer and allow to dry.



2 Draw a large number on the saucer.



3 Cut the red tile into 10mm strips using the tile cutter and then cut these into 10mm squares using the tile nipper.



4 Place a circle of red pieces around the rim of the saucer and fill in the number with pieces ripped from the green tile. Fix with a generous amount of PVA glue.



5 Fill in the background area with pieces nipped from the pale green tile, again fixing with PVA glue. Allow the glue to dry.



6 Mix the grout according to the manufacturer's instructions and work into the cracks of the mosaic. Wipe off any excess grout with a damp sponge. Once dry, wipe off any dusty grout residue with a clean, dry cloth.



7 Paint the outer rim of the house number plaque with two coats of Resene Elvis, allowing two hours for each coat to dry.



8 Mix a little Knead-IT, following manufacturer's instructions, and place on the back of the house number plaque. Carefully embed a small piece of bent wire to form a hanging device. Allow Knead-IT to cure before hanging.