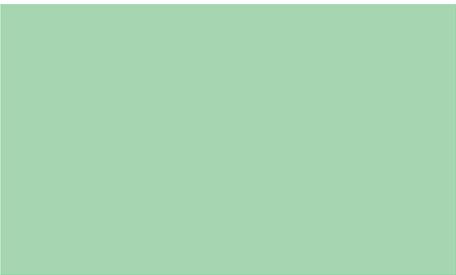


A vertical compost cage made of a white metal grid is filled with a variety of garden waste, including green leaves, stems, and small plants. The cage is positioned against a dark brown wooden fence. The ground around the cage is covered with a layer of straw or hay. The text 'COMPOST CAGE' is overlaid in large, white, bold letters across the middle of the image.

COMPOST CAGE

Get maximum aeration into your precious garden compost
with this handy cage.

WORDS & PHOTOS MARK RAYNER



YOU WILL NEED

- 14 x 5mm galvanised wire rope grips
- Clean cloth
- Paint stirrer
- Paintbrush
- Resene GP Metal primer
- Resene Supergloss tinted to Resene Summer Green
- Sandpaper
- Spanner
- Steel reinforcing mesh measuring approx 2m x 1m (ours was 'Handy Mesh M665' from Mitre 10 Mega)
- Turps for washing brush

STEP ONE

Bend the piece of reinforcing mesh into an oval shape, overlapping by one row of squares and fix together with 5mm galvanised wire rope grips, as shown.

HANDY HINT: TAKE CARE WHEN BENDING THE PIECE OF REINFORCING MESH TO SHAPE. IF NECESSARY, GET SOMEONE TO HOLD IN POSITION WHILE YOU FIX THE WIRE ROPE GRIPS.

STEP TWO

Working on a small section at a time, gently sand the reinforcing mesh to remove any light rust and other surface impurities.

MARK STAINED THE BACKGROUND FENCE WITH RESENE WOODSMAN TINTED TO RESENE WARM KWILA.

STEP THREE

Wipe off any sanding residue with a clean cloth. Repeat steps two and three until the cage is completely sanded and free of light rust.

STEP FOUR

Carefully stir the Resene GP Metal primer with a paint stirrer.

STEP FIVE

Apply one coat of Resene GP Metal primer to the entire cage, ensuring that the areas around the wire rope grips and overlapping steel are fully and generously coated. Allow to dry for 12 hours.

STEP SIX

Carefully stir the Resene Supergloss

tinted to Resene Summer Green with a paint stirrer.

STEP SEVEN

Apply one coat of Resene Supergloss tinted to Resene Summer Green to the entire cage and allow to dry for 16 hours.

STEP EIGHT

Apply a second coat of Resene Supergloss tinted to Resene Summer Green to the entire cage. Allow the paint 16 hours to dry before placing your cage in its final position and filling with compost components.

TOP TIP! WHEN YOUR COMPOST CAGE IS FULL, LEAVE THE WORMS TO DO THEIR THING, AND ONCE THE COMPOST HAS FULLY DECOMPOSED, SIMPLY LIFT THE CAGE OFF AND START THE PROCESS AGAIN.

BROUGHT TO YOU BY



the paint the professionals use