

Stacking up strawberries

Mark Rayner shows how to make a stylish strawberry wall planter in time for a great summer crop.

You will need:

- 15 x PB12 planter bags (or pots at least 15cm deep)
- 15 x strawberry plants
- Good quality potting mix
- 2 x 1.5m rough-sawn fence palings
- 7 x 1.2m rough-sawn fence palings
- Exterior PVA glue
- 4 x DIY garden corners (available from www.diygarden.co.nz)
- 30mm galvanised flat head nails
- 50mm galvanised flat head nails
- Drill with 10mm drill bit
- Hammer
- Screwdriver
- Paintbrush
- Pencil
- Tape measure
- Resene Quick Dry waterborne primer undercoat
- Resene Lumbersider tinted to Resene Red Berry
- 2 x zinc plated or galvanised angle brackets with screws



1 Use the 4 DIY garden corners to attach one 1.2m fence paling across the top of the two 1.5m fence palings, fixing them into position with 30mm galvanised nails, as shown.



2 Fix the six remaining fence palings together at right angles to form the three shelves, as shown, using 50mm galvanised nails and PVA glue.



3 Measure down from the top of the unit, and make three pencil marks along each side about 400mm apart.



4 Align the back edge of each shelf with the pencil marks. Angle each shelf at about 45° and fix in place with PVA and 50mm nails. Stand the unit upright.



5 Drill two or three drainage holes along the bottom ridge of each shelf and then apply one coat of Resene Quick Dry to the entire unit, allowing two hours to dry.



6 Apply two coats of Resene Red Berry to the entire unit and allow two hours for each coat to dry. Position the unit against a fence or wall and secure with the two angle brackets.



7 Fold down the top edge of each PB12 bag about 50mm, as shown.



8 Fill each bag with good quality potting mix and plant up with a strawberry plant. Place five bags on each shelf.

Top tip:

For best results, water the strawberry plants well, particularly in dry weather. Feed regularly over the growing season, protect the fruit from birds with netting.

To get the look:

Mark painted the background fence with Resene Lumbersider tinted to Resene Black Forest.