



Let's be sitting pretty

Mark Rayner shows how to make a fabulous herb seat using mat-forming thyme, treated timber and Resene paint.

You will need:



- 100mm x 100mm H4 treated fence posts cut to the following lengths:
 - 10 x 700mm
 - 10 x 1170mm
- Builders' pencil
- Tape measure

- Saw
- Large set square
- Drill with long 6mm drill bit
- Hammer
- Construction glue
- 56 x 150mm x 6mm galvanised jolt head nails
- Spirit level
- Resene Quick Dry water-borne primer undercoat

- Resene Lumbersider tinted to Resene Magik
- Paintbrushes
- 12 x mat-forming thyme plants (we used 6 x woolly thyme and 6 x 'Emerald Carpet' thyme)
- Trowel
- Good topsoil and/or potting mix

Other ideas

Create a fragrant chamomile bench using lawn chamomile (*Chamaemelum nobile*) or a simple instant lawn seat using cut turf.



For more on paints phone 0800 RESENE or visit www.resene.co.nz



1

Measure and cut the fence posts to the lengths listed above.



2

Drill two pilot holes through both ends of the longer lengths of timber, as shown.



3

On a level surface, form a rectangular frame with two longer lengths and two shorter lengths. Fix at the corners, using nails and construction glue.



4

Place this first frame into position – using a spirit level and large set-square to make sure it's level and square.



5

Repeat step three to make a second frame and fix this to the first frame, with a generous amount of construction glue and a nail at each corner. (Drill a pilot hole first). Repeat this until you have five frames in position. Leave overnight for glue to dry.



6

Apply one coat of Resene Quick Dry waterborne primer undercoat to the outer sides and top edge of the seat and leave to dry for one hour.



7

Paint the seat with two coats of Resene Magik, allowing two hours for each coat to dry. Fill the seat with good quality topsoil and/or potting mix, firm it down and finish it level with the seat's top edge.



8

Position and plant the mat-forming thymes, as shown (we alternated woolly and 'Emerald Carpet' thyme). Allow plants to establish and spread (approx 30cm) to create a foliage carpet. Once established, the seat can be used.