

# My kitchen stools

This quick DIY job will give your kitchen a touch of Nordic cool, says **Sarah Withell**.

If you're looking to update your home decor with a few new trends, social media sites such as Facebook and Instagram can provide inspiration. For example, the Scandi (or Scandinavian) look is hugely popular online right now, and kind of hard to miss. It involves a lot of black and white, natural blonde timber and clean lines. While some can commit to this palette enthusiastically throughout the home, I just wanted to add a touch of it to mine. This month I grabbed two old bar stools from an op shop and gave them a Scandi-style

makeover. But you could apply this look to any piece of furniture you like.

#### For this project you will need:

- 2 x wooden barstools or similar piece of wooden furniture
- Coating Remover (available at your Resene Colourshop)
- Resene Quick Dry Primer Undercoat
- Resene Lustacryl paint in Black
- Resene Lustacryl paint in Half Black White
- Paintbrushes, sandpaper, paint scraper, painter's tape



**Handy hint:** When refurbishing furniture it's important to prepare the surface correctly for painting so that you get a good-quality and long-lasting result. If you don't strip the paint all the way back to the timber, at least give it a good sand to prepare it for a new coat of paint.

Photos: Sarah Withell



#### Step 1:

In order to achieve the look I wanted, I first needed to strip the paint off the stools. You could manage this with a bit of sandpaper and some elbow grease, depending on how much paint you want to remove. But in my case there was a lot of old paint to remove, and so I used XXX paint stripper from Resene. It's a water-based product, so much more pleasant to work with than the scary paint-strippers of the past. Simply follow the instructions on the packaging and remove the paint with a metal scraper.



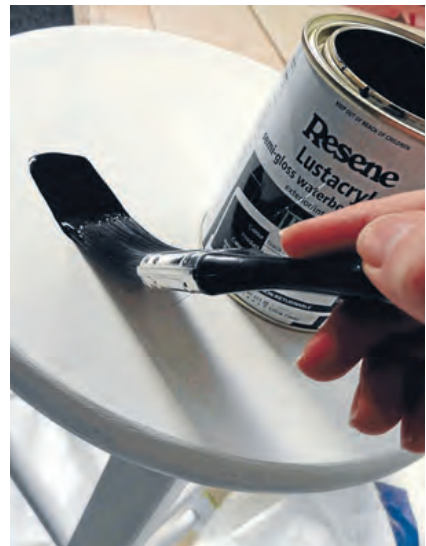
#### Step 2:

After rinsing off the remains of the Coating Remover, use a coarse sandpaper to sand away any final bits of paint that the scraper didn't pick up.



**Step 3:**

Once you have finishing sanding, choose the areas you wish to paint and those where you want to leave the timber exposed. Mask these off with painter's tape. I chose to paint the top third of each stool, and then a small segment again near the bottom of the legs, with the timber exposed elsewhere.



**Step 4:**

Apply a primer to each area that is to be painted, and then two coats of colour, making sure each coat dries thoroughly. I used Black and Half Black White in a semi-gloss finish, and swapped the black and white placement on each stool for a bit of a contrast.



**Step 5:**

Once your final coat is dry, remove your masking tape. You may like to finish off by applying a coat of Resene Aquaclear urethane varnish.

Sarah Withell writes a monthly column, sponsored by Resene, for *Your Weekend*.