

BUDGET BATHROOM TRANSFORMATIONS! p45

PLUS FATHER'S DAY GIFT IDEAS

NEW ZEALAND

Handyman

SCREEN OUT

THE NEIGHBOURS
FOR MORE PRIVACY

SPRUCE UP

LIVING SPACES WITH
NEW LIGHTS & PAINT

BUILD THIS

FIRE PIT

in your yard

page 16

Make this bench
in 3 easy steps

Get cosy!

READER'S DIGEST MAGAZINES



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DOES IT ALL.





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POWERS
THE RANGE



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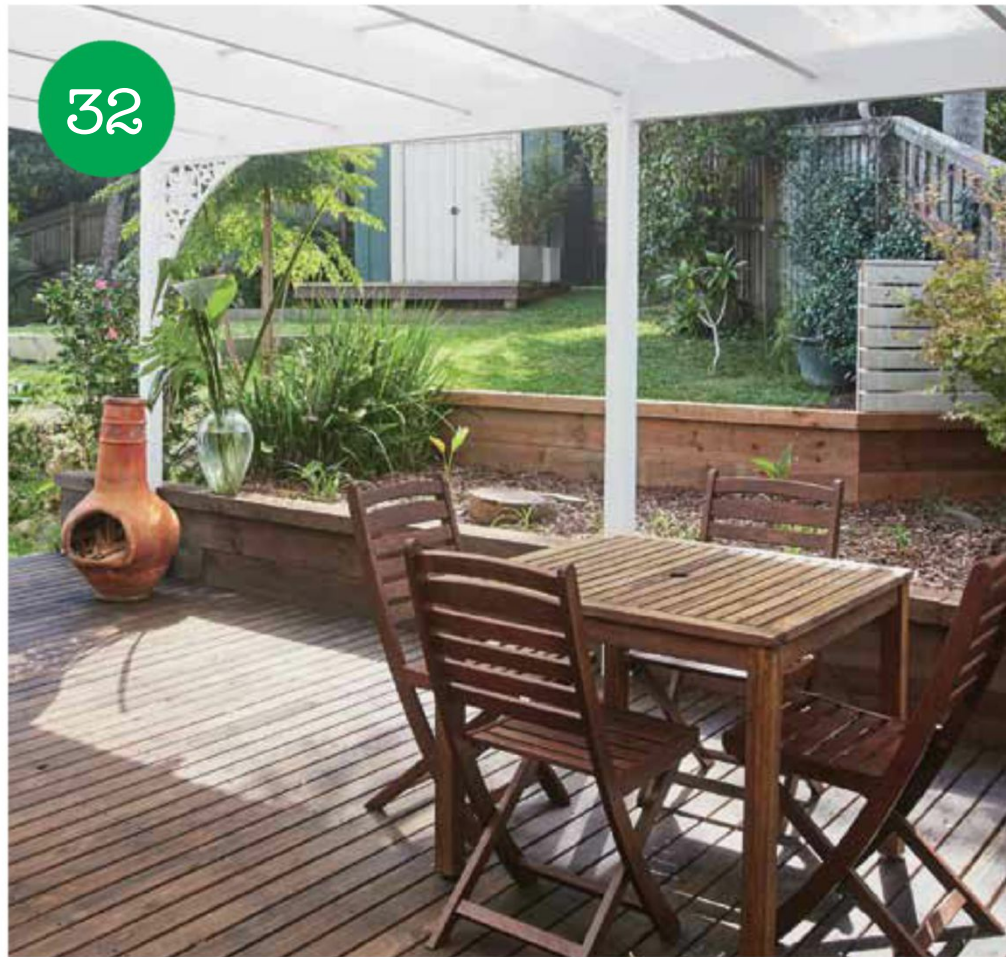
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AUGUST ISSUE



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STUART SCOTT

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Happy
Father's Day

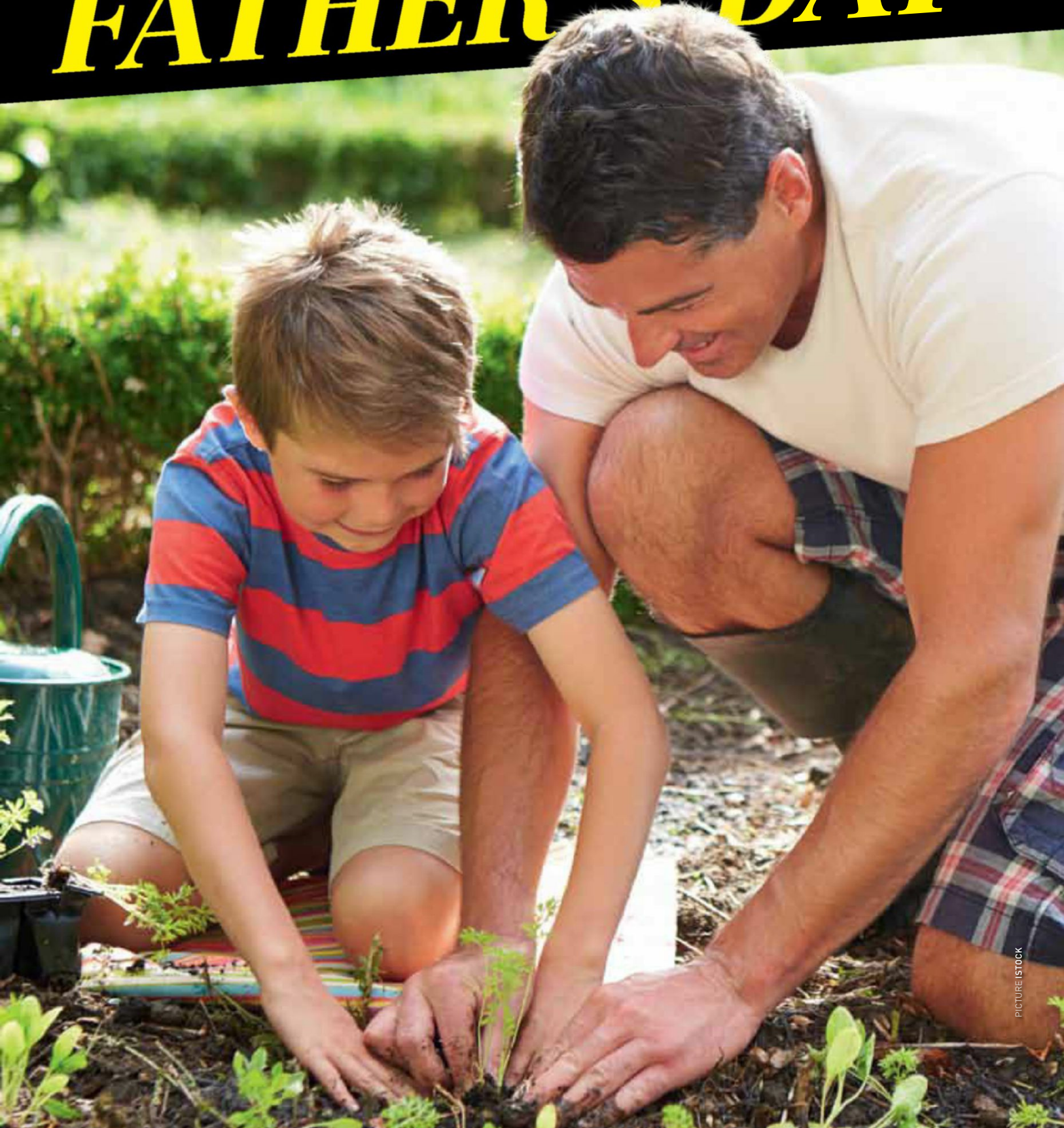
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NEW ZEALAND



HANDY STUFF

FATHER'S DAY GIFT GUIDE

Pick the perfect present for Dad with these ideas to suit any budget

WORDS ASHLEIGH PERRIOTT

Fit fashion

Kit Dad out with the Fitbit Blaze, \$370. Like older versions, it features a GPS and heart-rate tracker, and the new Fitbit also includes on-screen workouts, a colour touchscreen and long battery life.

fitbit.com/nz



Digital drawings

Streamline your father's workday with the Wacom Bamboo Spark With Gadget Pocket, \$290. This smart folio and ballpoint pen allows handwritten content to be saved as an editable digital file.

apple.com/nz

Armed access

Keep tools on hand with the Leatherman Tread, \$299. Adjustable to any wrist size, this wearable multi-tool has 29 tools built into its steel links, including wrenches and screwdrivers.

pilotshop.co.nz



Ring ringer

Save Dad's time with an Orbit Key Finder, \$60. Just pop it on his key ring and call it from a smart phone app when he can't locate his keys. It also works in reverse, ringing his phone with the press of a button.

askew.co.nz



Top tunes

Hear clearer with the Bose SoundLink Around-ear Wireless Headphones II, \$459. Crafted from impact-resistant materials, they feature an advanced microphone system for phone calls, Bluetooth switching between devices and crisp and clear sound.

bose.co.nz





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Smart Home Technology can improve safety, security, convenience, comfort and add value not to mention peace of mind in and around your home. Low cost wireless Trust products can be added into any home, no rewiring required! An easy way to start is with the DIY Starter Set APA3-1500R.

Connecting your floor lamps, bedroom lamps or devices to the DIY Starter set with Plug and Play function is easy as 1,2,3, included in the pack is 3 x wall socket switches and 1 remote to control your lights or device independently On/Off or group function all OFF, Works with all lights/devices up to 1500watt.



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+



ANY RECEIVER

=



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APA3-1500R Starter Kit
Refer to 'Product of the Month'



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Clean cut

Give Dad the Muhle GS Traditional Safety Razor Shaving Set, \$299. It includes a retro-style safety razor, matching shaving brush, stand and a pack of five blades, all in a smart wooden box.

mancave.co.nz



Easy entertainer

Surf channels fast with the help of Siri using Apple TV, from \$299. It has a glass-touch Siri Remote that turns your TV into a touch screen. And the customisable home screen makes accessing entertainment apps easy.

apple.co.nz



Home hacks

Full of expert advice to save time, money and effort, as well as professional secrets and quick fixes, *Brilliant Home Tips and Tricks* (Reader's Digest, \$50) is a great book for any DIYer.

shop.readersdigest.co.nz



Gourmet grill

Let your dad loose on a Matador Boss Six-Burner BBQ, \$1349. It has a satin enamel cooking surface, self-cleaning hood and a wok burner. Grillsmart technology channels fat and oils away for fewer flare-ups and easier cleaning.

bunnings.co.nz

Handy highball

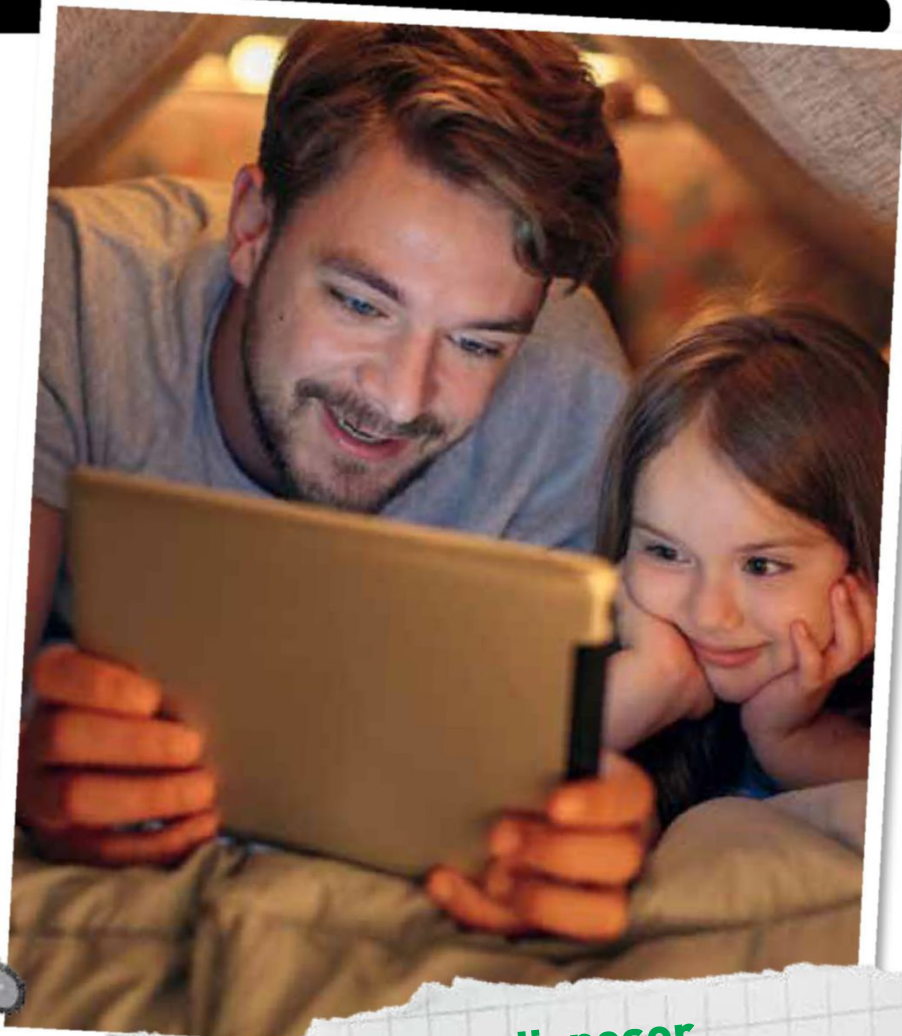
Quickly cool Dad's drink without watering it down using Tovolo Sphere Ice Ball Molds, \$30. Crafted from high grade food-safe silicone, they create ice spheres with a 65mm diameter. Just pour in water and put in the freezer.

cocktailmerchant.co.nz

Solid sipper

Cure a caffeine lover's DIY dilemma with the Thermos 1.8L Dura Vac Flask, \$40. The double-wall design will keep their coffee warm while they work, and the stainless steel construction will withstand the toughest use.

bunnings.co.nz



Fast feller

Slice through tree branches with the Ozito 1800W 355mm Electric Chainsaw, \$99. A chain brake protects against kickbacks while automatic oiling and bucking spikes ensure a swift, smooth cutting performance.

ozito.co.nz



Portable player

Ideal for the garage, the Ryobi 18V One+ Bluetooth Two-speaker Radio, \$199, can stream from, and charge, devices. Switch between battery or corded mains power.

ryobi.co.nz

Dirt disposer

Upgrade Dad's toolshed with the Karcher 173cc G2500 DCE Water Blaster, \$639. Its grunty 4.5hp petrol engine provides the power to remove the most stubborn grime.

karcher.co.nz



Power pack

Make sure electronic devices are always ready to use with the Tactix Power Bank, \$49. This ultra-thin recharging unit has 8GB of file storage while dual outputs allow two devices to be charged at once.

bunnings.co.nz

Available at Bunnings

What's new

Don't be discouraged by winter, get stuck into indoor projects. Renovate the kitchen, stain the floors or organise your home. There's plenty you can do and we can help you get it done with our huge range.

QUALITY CUTS

The Ryobi 4" Tile Saw is a convenient and versatile tool that will meet your tiling needs. Due to the large capacity gravity feed you are not tied down to a water supply. The on/off switch makes switching from wet to dry cutting a breeze. The polished finish on the base provides corrosion and wear resistance for increased tool longevity. **\$179**



POWER THROUGH D.I.Y. PROJECTS

With Ozito's Power X Change Brushless Drill Driver you can work more comfortably, for longer. Brushless motor technology means cooler motors and longer runtimes. The 13mm metal ratcheting chuck provides better drill bit grip and its speed gear selector allows you to choose high or low speed for drilling or high or low torque for fastening screws. 5-year replacement warranty included. **\$128.96**



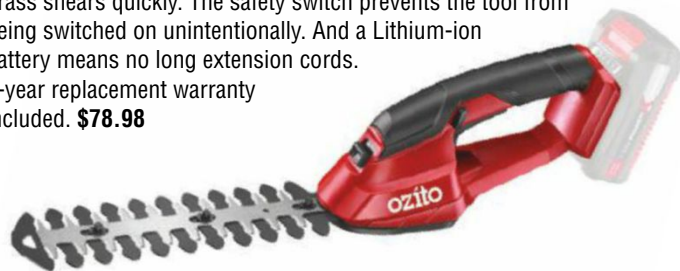
CLEAR THE CLOG

The Ryobi ONE+ 18V Drain Auger helps clear clogs with ease from drains, sinks, toilets and bath tubs. This unit also features a 7.6m reinforced cable which will minimise kinking. It is compatible with any Ryobi ONE+ battery and is part of the Ryobi 18V ONE+ system of over 40 tools. **\$149**



CORDLESS CONVENIENCE

The Cordless Grass Trimmer & Shear, made by Ozito, is perfect for small cutting jobs on lawn edges, bushes and shrubs. A convenient quick blade change system lets you change from hedge trimmer to grass shears quickly. The safety switch prevents the tool from being switched on unintentionally. And a Lithium-ion battery means no long extension cords. 5-year replacement warranty included. **\$78.98**



AN EYE FOR PRECISION

Ozito's 360° Line Laser Level is great for D.I.Y. precision, whether you're hanging picture frames, wallpaper, shelves, paintings, or building to a level line. It features an auto levelling function which eliminates measuring calculations – it finds level lines with completed accuracy. A 1.5m tripod is also included allowing extra stability in any position. **\$227**



MAKE IT SHINE

The Ryobi ONE+ 10" Buffer/Polisher is a great tool to keep handy in your garage. This unit is suitable for polishing and buffing cars, boats, motorcycles or furniture. Its random orbital action provides a swirl free finish and its cordless technology allows you to move around your work piece without the inconvenience of a cord. **\$119**



GIVE YOUR FLOORS A BOLD FINISH



MAKE A STATEMENT

Feast Watson's Floor Finish Black Japan will breath life into your floor boards. This is an oil based interior floor finish which combines a traditional Black Japan TM stain with a clear polyurethane. Its semi-transparent coating adds rich colour whilst allowing the grain pattern to remain visible. **\$125.98 (4L), \$326 (10L)**

KEEP IT LIGHT

This Liming White Floor Finish, made by Feast Watson, will give your space a light soothing feel. It combines traditional lime stain with a professional clear polyurethane for one-step 'soft milky white colour'. This formula is also water based which means the colour won't yellow over time. **\$125.98 (4L), \$326 (10L)**



COMBO FOR COOKS

Power up your kitchen with Parmco's Gas Hob & Oven Combo. With a 70 litre capacity and 8 functions, this oven will bring your favourite recipes to life. It also features triple glazed glass doors and cool touch glass technology. The gas cooktop has a sleek design with cast iron trivets and four burners. **\$849**



FOR HAIRLESS HOMES

This super powerful Bagless Power 5 Pet, made by Vax, is ideal for homes with pets. It features a combination floor head that easily switches between carpets and hard floors so you can achieve a total home clean. This 2000W turbotool with antibacterial hep filter, crevice tool and dusting brush makes pet clean up a breeze. This compact lightweight model also comes with a 2-year warranty. **\$147**

DIRT WON'T STAND A CHANCE

The Vacuum Rebel 2, made by Dirt Devil, has cyclonic technology that can produce 280 air watts. It's compact design and 5m hose allows you to get into the tightest spots. It also has a combination floor tool, an upholstery tool, a dusting brush, and a metal telescope extension tube. The Rebel comes with a 12-month warranty and is exclusive to Bunnings. **\$129**



Not all products featured are available in all stores, but may be ordered. Shelf prices may be lower than advertised to ensure lowest prices every day. We reserve the right to restrict the purchase of commercial quantities. All prices quoted are inclusive of GST. Prices valid until Wednesday 31st August 2016, or while stocks last.

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BUILD A FIRE PIT

Lay bricks DIY to create a winter entertaining area in the backyard

PROJECT ADAM WOODHAMS PICTURES STUART SCOTT

A well-designed outdoor space has a dedicated hub for dining and entertaining, usually a patio or deck with a barbecue or outdoor kitchen.

To give this garden another spot for outdoor living during winter, we installed a fire pit and added seating.

It looks very impressive, but you only need basic DIY skills to create this winter entertaining area.

The fire pit is built on concrete, and the most important part of the

job is to measure and set out the slab and the pit correctly.

Once the concrete has cured, take your time laying the brickwork and you'll get a professional result.

We installed a weather-resistant, rust-coloured corten steel fire bowl in our pit for a rustic effect.

To complete the fire pit, we gave it a timber frame and a built-in bench made from treated pine sleepers.

The project took just two days to complete and cost about \$550. ➤

DESIGN TIP

If you're renting or prefer a portable option, go for a metal or clay fire bowl on a stand instead of a built-in fire pit.

What you need

20mm aggregate
Sand
Cement
Quick-set concrete
Wire mesh
Bar chairs
Treated pine sleepers
Timber stakes
Bricks
Brick cleaning acid and sponge
Decorative gravel
Bugle head screws
Decking oil



Adam

EXPERT SECRETS

Laying brickwork in a radial pattern means you won't need to cut any bricks, saving time and effort.

ADAM'S PICKS



Daltons Fine Riverstone, \$4 for 4L.
daltons.co.nz



Solid Energy Premium Fire Wood, \$10.
solidenergy.co.nz



Cemix Maxcrete High Strength Concrete, \$13 for 20kg. cemix.co.nz



EuroSteel Steel Reinforcing Mesh, 980 x 1970 x 53mm, \$22.
eurocorp.co.nz

A fire pit takes outdoor entertaining to a new level during winter.



SAFETY TIP

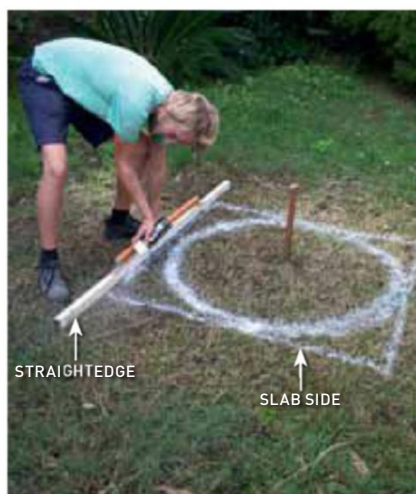
Never burn treated timber in a backyard fire pit, as it will release smoke filled with toxins into the atmosphere.

LAY THE SLAB



1 Mark the pit

Calculate the size of the fire-pit well from the width of the fire bowl less its supporting lip, plus the length of two bricks. Position a peg to mark the fire pit centre, then loop a stringline over the peg. Use line-marking paint to spray a circle on the ground at half the width of the pit.



2 Mark the slab

Position a straightedge and mark one of the slab sides to the required length. Use a builder's square to mark the next line at a right angle. Repeat this for the other two lines to create a square. Dig the area to a minimum depth of 100mm, using a spirit level to check the area is level.



3 Create the formwork

Measure and cut timber for the formwork. Position the formwork around the excavated area and hammer in timber stakes halfway along each side on the outside. Check the formwork is level on all sides using a spirit level, then secure to the stakes using screws.



4 Install the mesh

Measure and cut the reinforcing mesh to size so that it will sit about 30mm in from the formwork edges. Position the mesh in the excavated area with bar chairs underneath spaced at regular intervals, using enough to support the mesh so it won't sag in any spot once the concrete is poured.



5 Pour the concrete

Dry-mix cement, sand and aggregate in a ratio of 1:2:3 in a wheelbarrow. Mix until well blended, then add water and continue to mix. Keep mixing and adding water until the cement is just pourable, then pour it into the formwork, working it down with a shovel and filling it to the top.



6 Screed the surface

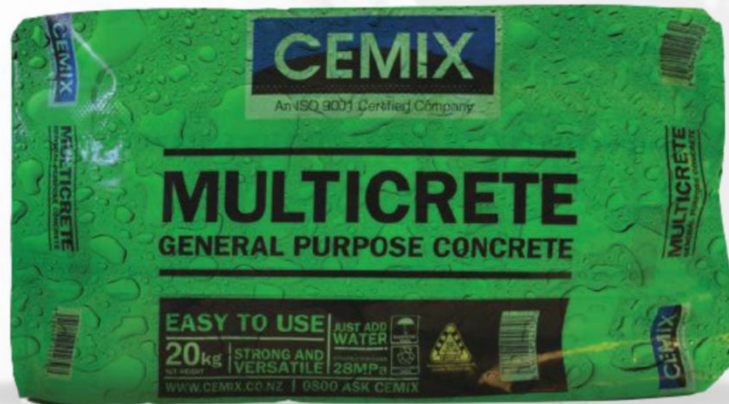
Use a straightedge to screed the surface level and remove any excess concrete. Allow the concrete to dry a little, then use a float to finish the surface. Cover with builder's plastic for at least 24 hours, then allow the cement to cure for at least a week before building the fire pit. ➤



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BUILD THE FIRE PIT



1 Mark the slab

Using a long straightedge, mark from corner to corner both ways to find the centre point of the slab. Position the fire bowl upside down on the slab and use a tape measure to position it exactly in the centre by measuring in from all four sides. Draw a line around the lip of the bowl.



2 Position the bricks

Lay the base course of bricks in position around the bowl line with their inside faces about 20mm over the line. Check the measurement by positioning the bowl on top of the bricks. Remove the bowl and mark a line on the slab around the inside edge of the bricks before removing the bricks.



3 Lay the bedding course

Make up a batch of mortar with cement and brickie's sand at a ratio of 1:4. Blend the dry mix, then add water slowly, blending continuously. Using the inside line as a guide, lay the bedding course of mortar. Add the bricks, aligning them with the edge of the slab and levelling them as you go.



4 Finish the bricklaying

Pack the large wedge-shaped joints in the base course of bricks using mortar, shaving and shaping the front edges with a trowel. Layer a bed of mortar on top of the base course, then lay the second and third courses, staggering not stacking the bricks and mortar wedges.



5 Clean the brickwork

Trim off any excess mortar and pack extra into the gaps, then allow it to dry. Mix brick-cleaning acid in a bucket. Wear safety equipment and follow all safety directions. Using a brick-cleaning sponge, gently rub down the bricks and mortar to clean the brickwork and smooth the mortar.



6 Make the slab frame

Cut timber for the frame, leaving it about 30mm proud of the slab when positioning. Check for level on each side, then secure the butt joints with screws. Fill between the frame and the fire pit with decorative gravel.

TIP Our frame is cut snug around the slab but make it larger if required. ➤



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Win an **Adrenaline Fuelled trip for two to Queenstown, New Zealand** for 4 nights/5 days. Trip includes flights, accommodation and choice of activities such as Bungee Jumping, Jet Boating, Quad Biking, Horse Riding, and either a Hang- or Para- Gliding experience.



Promotion runs from 00:01am the 1st of July 2016 – 11:59pm 31st August 2016 at which point entries will close. The winner will be drawn on September 6th, 2016. The choice of activities has a varied selection available up to \$2000 in total. If this is not fully maximised the remainder is not redeemable. Qualifying products include Gorilla Glue Premium 3 Hour Cure, Gorilla Glue Premium 1 Hour Cure, Gorilla Crosslinking PVA, Gorilla Bond It On Aliphatic PVA, Gorilla General Purpose PVA and Gorilla Aliphatic PVA Wood Glue. See www.holdfast.co.nz/holdontight for full Terms & Conditions.

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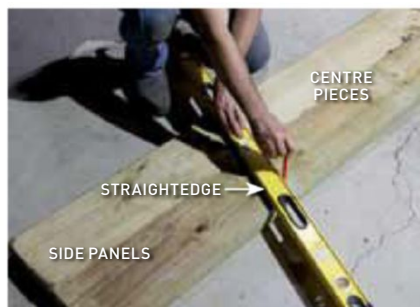


Build the bench

The bench is made from 2.4m treated pine sleepers and concreted into position. Once it is installed, chamfer off all of the edges with a block plane.

Sand the top and any rough areas, then apply two coats of natural water-based timber oil or use a stain to change the colour.

1 2 3



1 Cut the sleepers

Lay two 200 x 50mm sleepers next to each other, marking at 800mm and 1600mm. Using a sliding bevel, draw a straight line at a 20° angle across the sleepers, then cut to create the bench seat with 40° angles. Bevel the ends of the seat blocks to 45°.



2 Build the bench

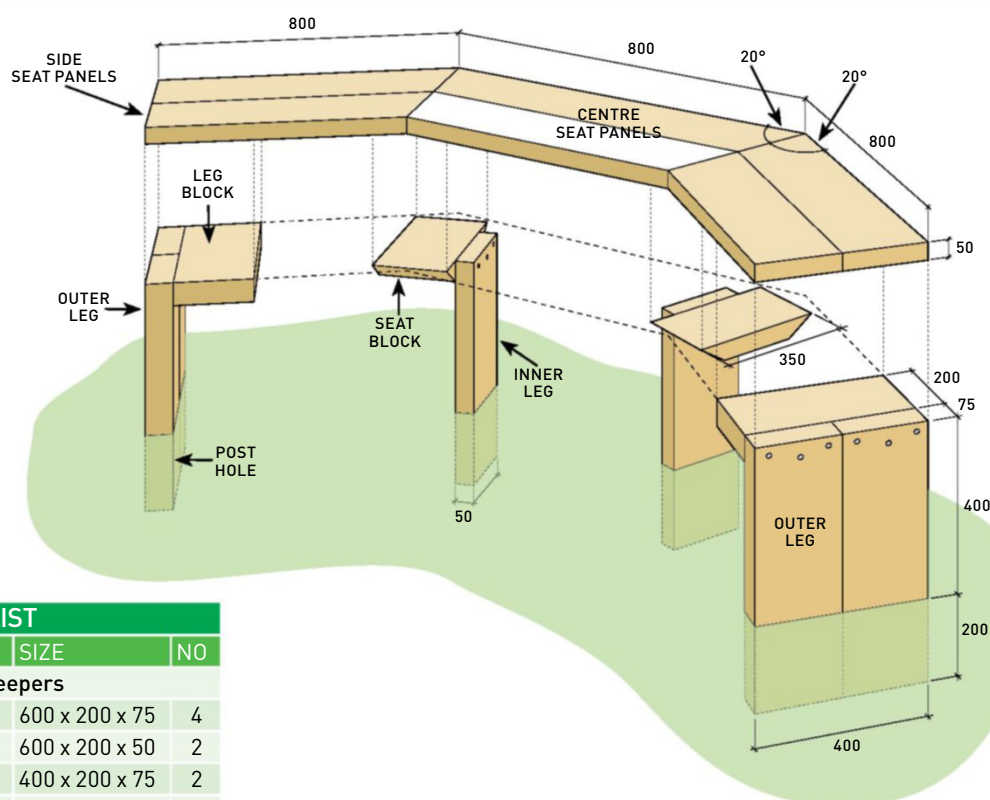
Lay the seat panels upside down with the seat blocks over the centre and side panel joints. Secure with four screws, then attach the inner legs. Secure the leg blocks 75mm in from the side panel ends. Attach the outer legs with screws. **TIP** We used 150mm bugle head screws.



3 Secure the legs

Position the bench, marking around the legs. Remove the bench, then dig post holes to about 300mm deep and twice the width of the legs. Add aggregate to each hole. Position the legs in the holes, check for level, and add quick-set concrete.

BENCH SEAT



CUTTING LIST

PART	SIZE	NO
Treated pine sleepers		
Outer legs	600 x 200 x 75	4
Inner legs	600 x 200 x 50	2
Leg blocks	400 x 200 x 75	2
Seat blocks	350 x 200 x 75	2
Seat panels	800 x 200 x 50	6

CHOOSE A FIRE PIT



Cast Stone Fire Pit, \$249.



Firth Ezi Wall Round Planter & Fire Pit Kitset, about \$465.



Machu Cement Fire Pit, \$499.



Jumbuck Round Fire Pit Brazier, \$99.

Ready-made fire pits and braziers are available in many styles and Bunnings has an interesting selection to suit a variety of budgets (bunnings.co.nz).



SCREENING SOLUTIONS

Turn your place into a private sanctuary using foliage, metal and timber screens

WORDS SITA SIMONS

PICTURE URBAN ANGLES



With the outdoor room growing in popularity in New Zealand homes, spending is up on the backyard, according to recent research into home design and renovation.

A survey of over 5000 respondents showed that privacy and screening are the most common challenges faced by homeowners in their backyards.

Of the respondents, 50% of those taking part in urban and suburban

areas and 41% in rural areas have completed or are working on projects to address these issues.

It seems that homeowners want practical fencing and screening solutions to hide their backyard, pool and front garden from neighbours, and are exploring new ways with plants to create natural seclusion.

But whatever your screening needs, there are ways to get the right result for your space and budget. ➤

Plant a living screen

For a screen, you need an easy-care plant that grows fast and looks great. There are lots of hedging plants that make highly effective green screens.

'Bamboo is the one that springs to mind for many people, and for good reason. It gets tall quickly, with some varieties reaching 1.5m in a year,' says landscaper Jarret Clynick.

Bamboo likes free-draining soil and at least 5-6 hours of sunlight a day. To ensure the plant is dense and ideal for screening, tip-prune at the end of the growth season, especially when young.

'You see spindly growth if there's not enough sun in the spot you've chosen. They don't need much feeding, but an occasional dose of Seasol is good,' says Jarret.

'And remember, any plant will only ever be as good as the soil it's in.'

When choosing a hedging plant, remember to select a variety that will grow to the height you require.

Griselinia 'Broadway Mint' is an excellent choice for a hedge. Growing up to 2.5m tall, it is wind-tolerant, hardy and the leaves are glossy green.

Coprosma 'Cappuccino', with its mahogany-coloured leaves, produces a dense hedge that will reach 1.5m. ➤

GROW TIP

Use a clumping bamboo not a running variety, which is not suited to domestic situations and can wreak havoc even when planted in a pot.

Bamboo will always chase the sun, so give it a spot with plenty.

Griselinia is arguably New Zealand's most popular hedge.

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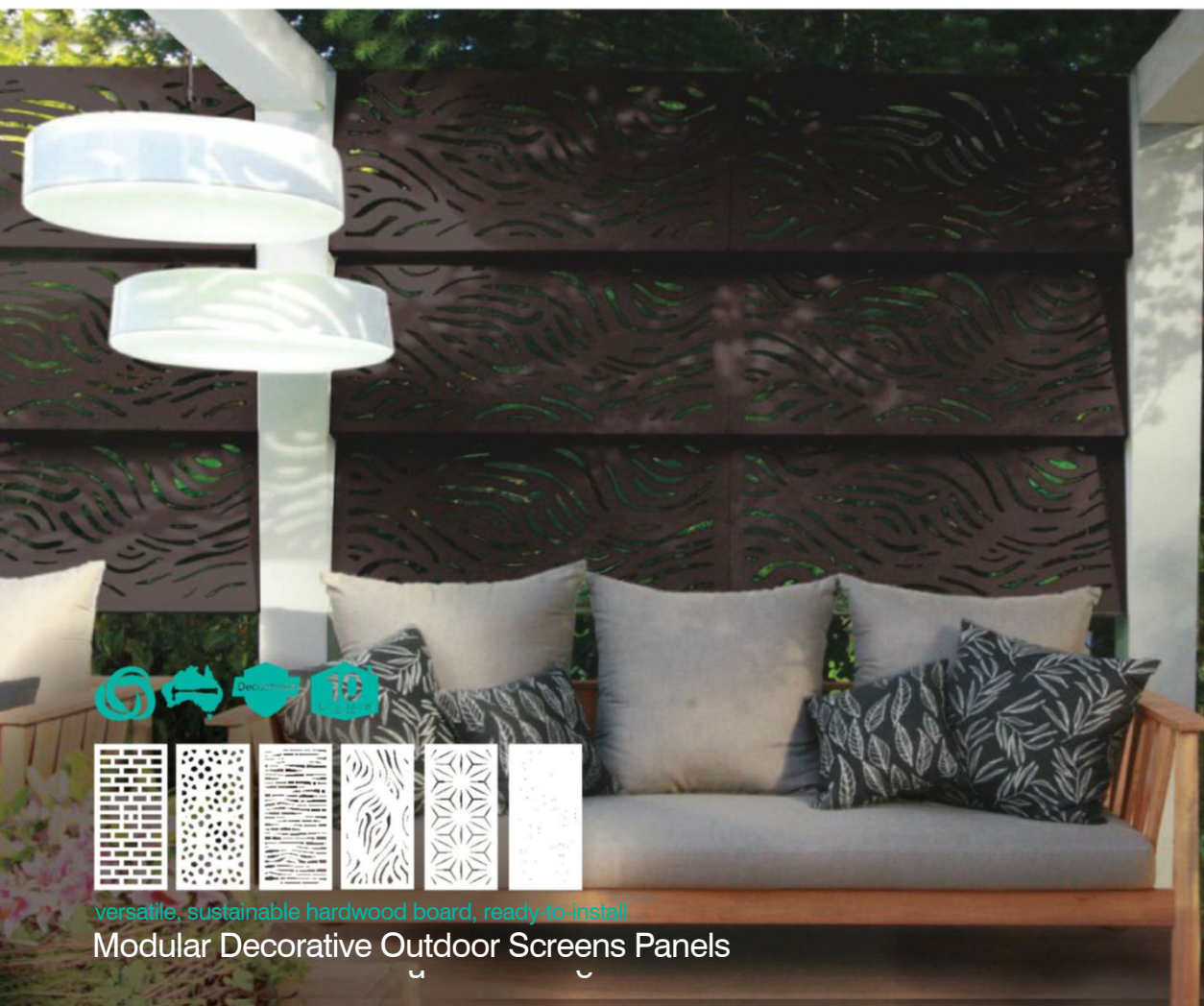
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Timber screens provide privacy while still letting in light.



Use metal and timber screens

Installing metal or timber screening is another option to planting. They may not provide the same level of privacy or sound insulation, but they can be used to zone areas while letting in light.

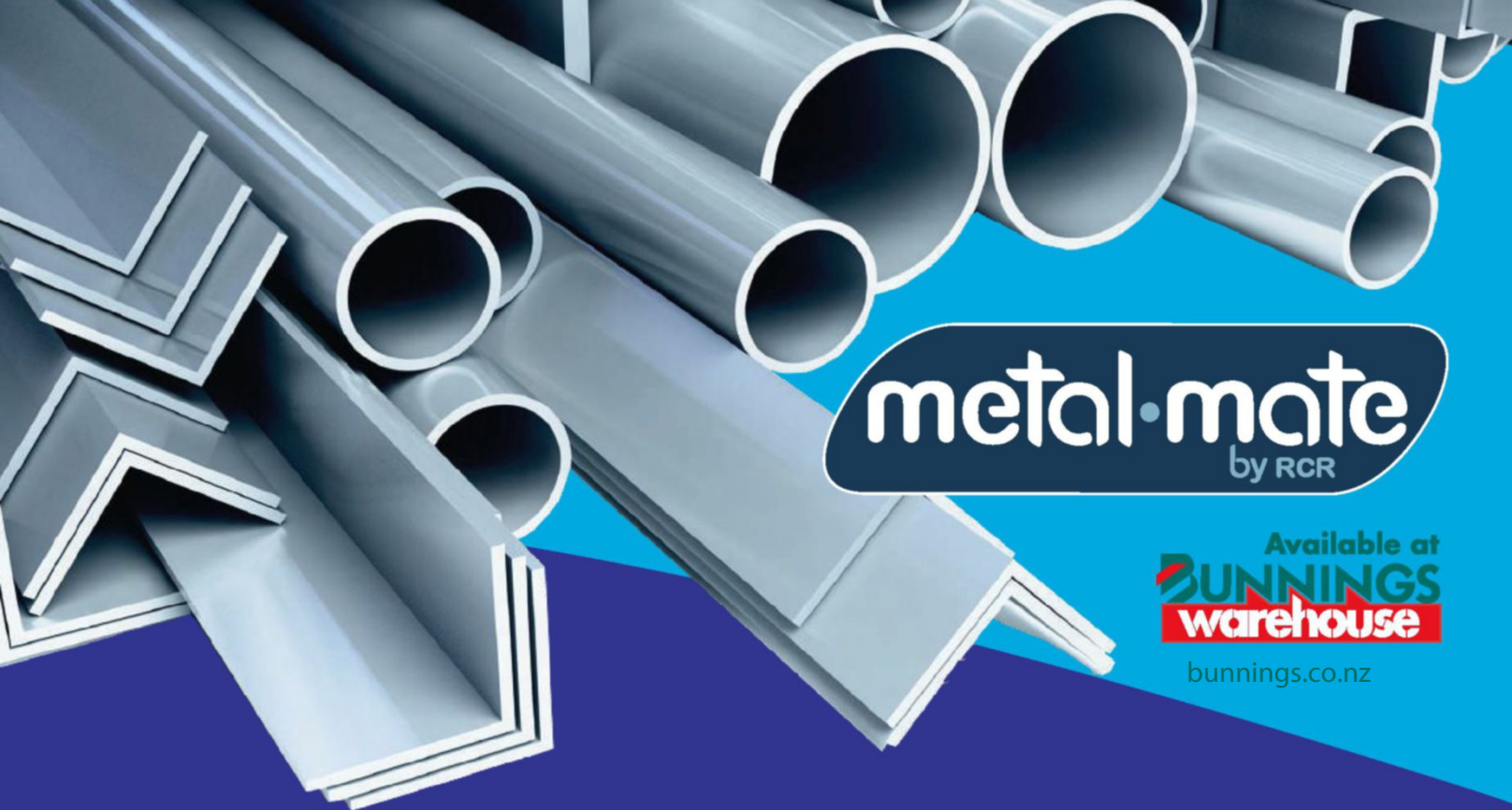
Metal, composite timber and plastic panels are easy to install DIY.

Slatted timber and lattice screens are also easy to put in and can be painted or stained to suit the space.

‘This is the type of thing you want when you’re not after total block-out,’ says landscaper Jarret Clynick.

The feeling of a private sanctuary by using screening overhead or in tall panels is emphasised by the shadow lines that can be created.

This form of screening transforms the garden into an attractive and active space to be engaged with rather than a passive environment. ➤



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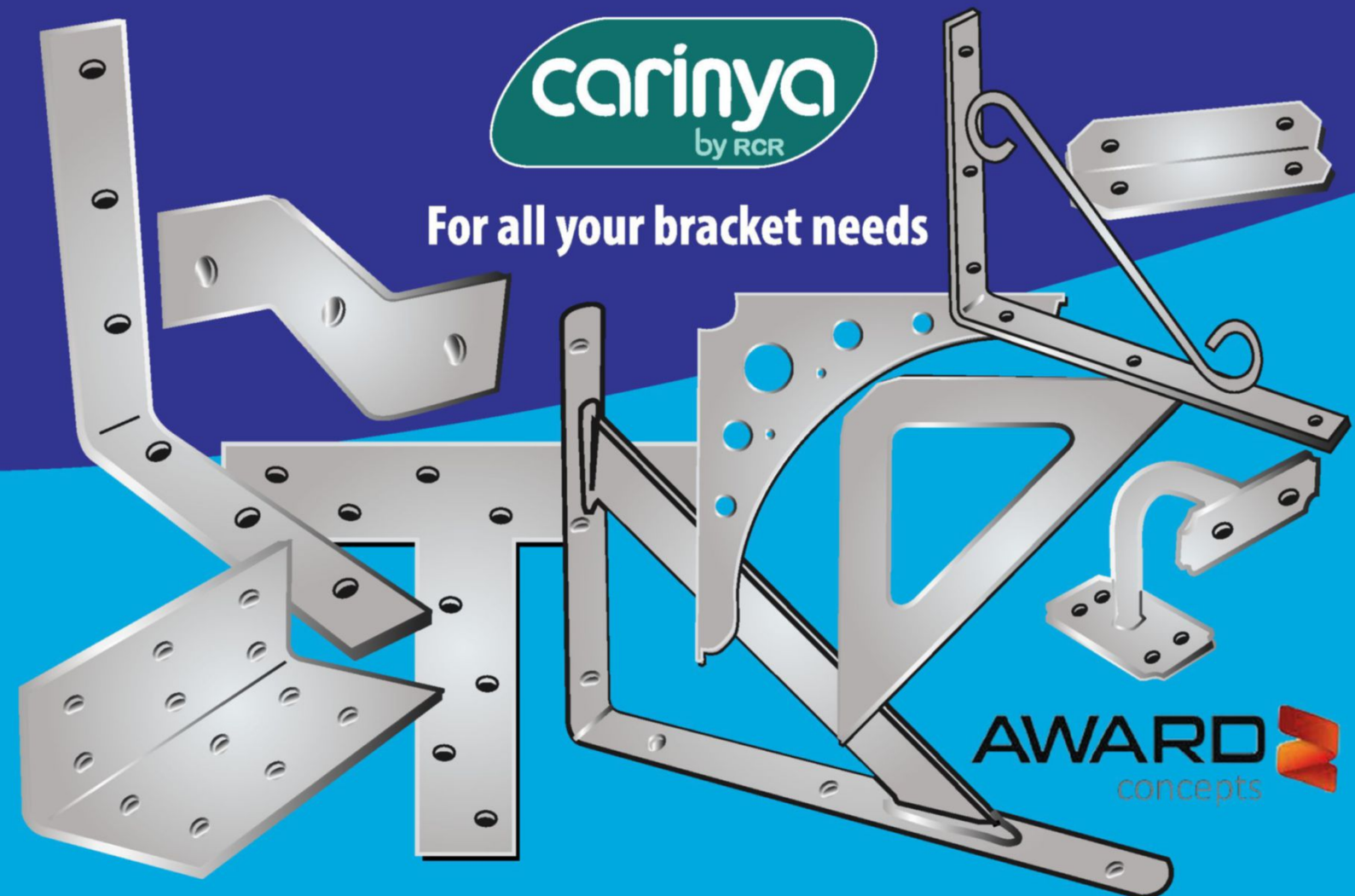
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AWARD
concepts

Outdoor overhaul

Backyard renovations are far from the last priority these days, with people spending more money and time on getting exactly the space they want.

This suburban home had a large outdoor area, but it was dark, dingy and very under-utilised.

Landscape designer Georgia Harper took existing plans to install a pool and came up with a clever solution to improve the entire space.

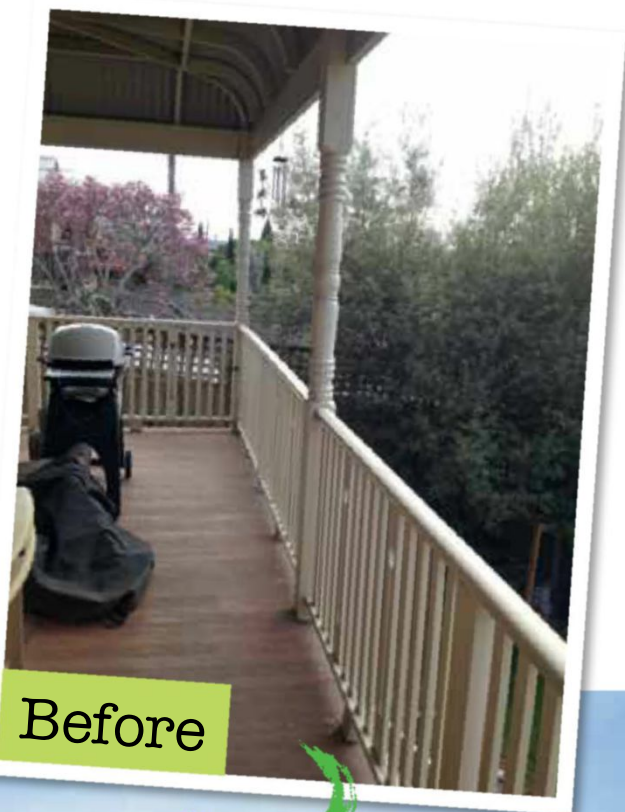
'The block sloped front to back, so the backyard was plunged into eternal darkness. It was a bit like being at the bottom of a well,' says Georgia.

'The kids didn't want to play there and the owners wanted to address why they weren't using a third of the block.'

'I determined that by elevating the area for the pool by 600mm we'd get more sun, the pool wouldn't have to be dug as deep, and the line of sight from the house to the pool would be clearer.'



By altering the levels in the backyard, there is a better connection between the indoor and outdoor spaces



Before

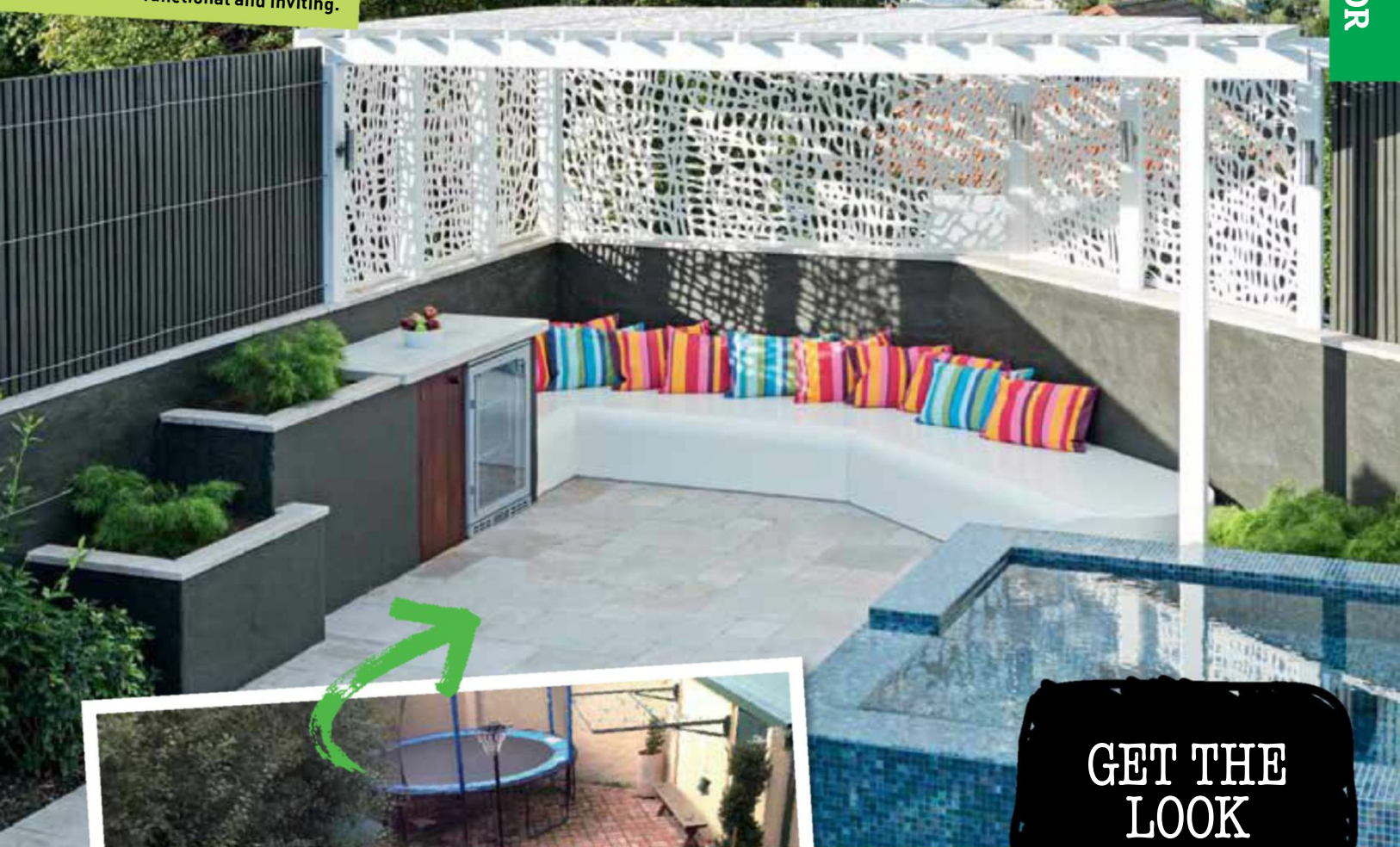
After

With glass screening, the pool area is more visible from the house.



After

The backyard is now more functional and inviting.



GET THE
LOOK

Protector Aluminium
Bamboo Screen Panel,
1800 x 940mm, \$169.
protectoraluminium.com.au



Outdeco Bungalow
Hardwood Screen
Panel, 1200 x 600mm,
\$99. outdeco.com

Before



The one downside of the new design was overlooking the neighbours and being overlooked.

'As all the houses face the same way, we installed a tall slatted fence on each side of the block. They're not totally solid, but the neighbours can't see through,' says Georgia.

'At the back of the plot, there are some nice trees in the laneway, so

we made a white powdercoated screen. This makes the homeowners feel more private but doesn't block out the trees.'

The screen leads the eye through to the foliage beyond and the expanse of white bounces light back into the garden, providing a point of interest.

'The yard is now a series of levels, so the space is both more functional and appealing to be in,' says Georgia. 🍀



Before

After

The new retaining wall turns this sloping backyard into a multi-level landscape.



LANDSCAPE WITH TIMBER

Build a low retaining wall to define outdoor zones in a sloping backyard

PROJECT AND PICTURES STUART SCOTT

An old paved patio off the back of this home had recently been replaced with a new deck as part of a plan to overhaul the yard.

To turn it into a year-round outdoor living and entertaining space, the deck was covered with a pergola.

Garden beds were built around the deck using treated pine sleepers.

The same 2.4m long sleepers were used to build a new retaining wall beyond the garden beds. It was designed to provide more structure to the sloping site and mark a clear division between the deck and lawn.

The retaining wall was completed in just a day and cost about \$530.

What you need

- Treated pine 2.4m sleepers
- Quick-set concrete
- Geotextile fabric
- Sleeved drainage pipe
- Premium soil mix
- Pine bark mulch
- Aggregate
- Cuphead bolts, washers and nuts
- Galvanised batten screws
- Timber stain

Stuart



EXPERT SECRETS

Pine treated to H5 level is a suitable option for almost all non-structural applications.

DIY TIP

Contact your utility companies to establish the location of any underground pipes and cables before doing excavations.

STUART'S PICKS

Suntuf 6m Diffused Polycarbonate Roofing, about \$202. psp.co.nz



Ryobi One+ 18V Cordless Compact Drill Driver, \$119 skin only. ryobi.co.nz

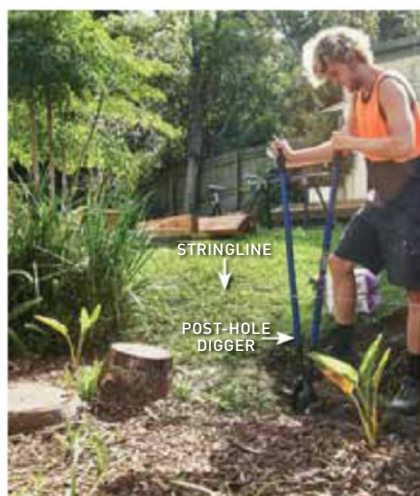


Pinex 2.4m x 200 x 50mm Sleepers, about \$14 each. chhwoodproducts.co.nz



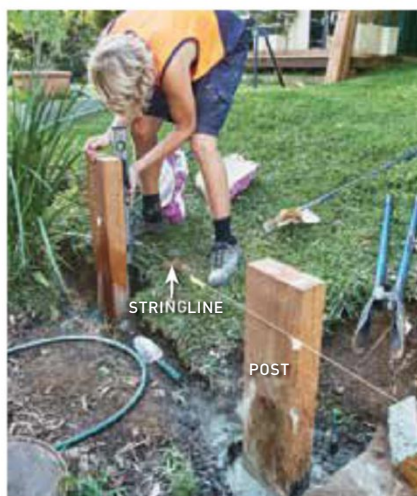
Daltons New Zealand Pine Bark Nuggets, \$8 for 40L. daltons.co.nz ➤

BUILD THE WALL



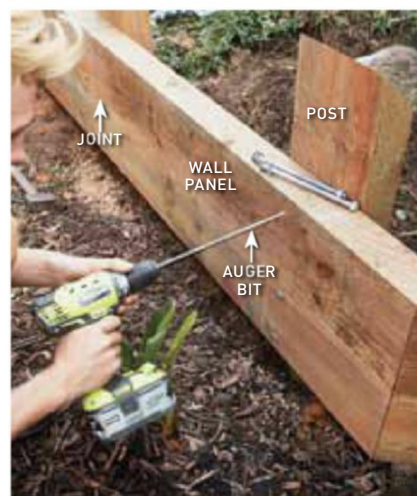
1 Excavate the post holes

Mark out the retaining wall with landscape pegs. Run a stringline in between and mark the post positions, with the centres a maximum 1200mm apart. Excavate a level area behind the wall, then dig 300 x 300mm holes to 600mm deep for each post, using a post-hole digger.



2 Sink the posts

Cut 2.4m sleepers into 1200mm long posts using a compound mitresaw. Seal the cut ends with a timber preservative and position in the holes. Check the posts for plumb, then fill each hole to about one-third with water and add quickset concrete to ground level, mixing thoroughly.



3 Secure the wall panels

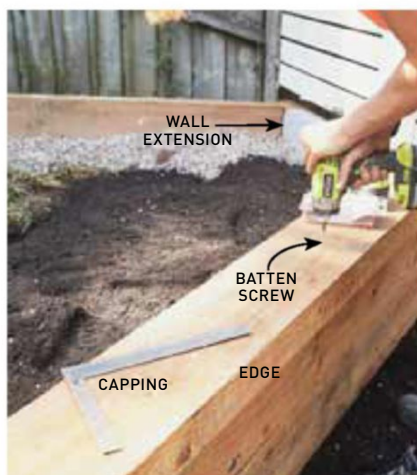
Attach a full-length sleeper as the base panel of the wall. Level, clamp and secure to each post with two cuphead bolts, set 30mm from the edges. Repeat for the top course with two half-sleepers, centring the joint on the post. Pre-drill through the wall panels and posts with a 10.5mm auger bit.



4 Add the drainage

Cover the wall and area behind with geotextile fabric. Add aggregate and put drainage pipe on top, ensuring good fall to the outlet end. Cover the pipe with aggregate and cut the excess fabric.

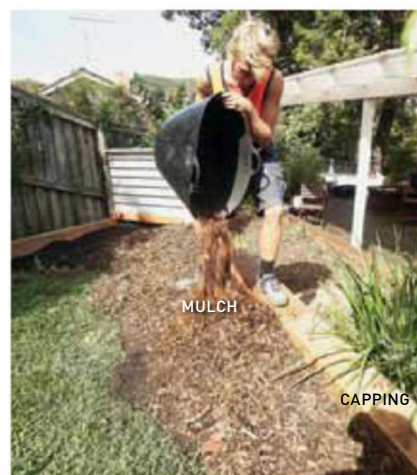
TIP As the wall was on an angle to the fence, two half-sleepers were added to retain the backfill in the whole area.



5 Install the capping

Cut the posts flush with the top of the wall, then position a full-length sleeper as the capping. Pre-drill to secure the capping with two batten screws over each post and a single screw 75mm from the front edge between each post.

TIP The wall and extension capping were skew-screwed through the edge.



6 Landscape the wall

Backfill behind the retaining wall with a premium soil mix and aggregate. Firm the soil down gently as you go and make sure the backfill is mostly aggregate. Finish off the top with a layer of soil, then add a 50mm deep layer of an organic mulch such as bark chips.



The raised beds and wall were built to the same design.

DESIGN TIP

The garden bed sleepers were finished with a dark timber stain to complement the look of the stained decking boards.



Raised planter beds and timber retaining walls transform a sloping backyard into a terraced garden



Creating drainage

To prevent water being trapped behind the retaining wall, drainage was created.

The back of the wall was lined with geotextile fabric and a length of 100mm sleeved drainage pipe was positioned on a bed of aggregate.

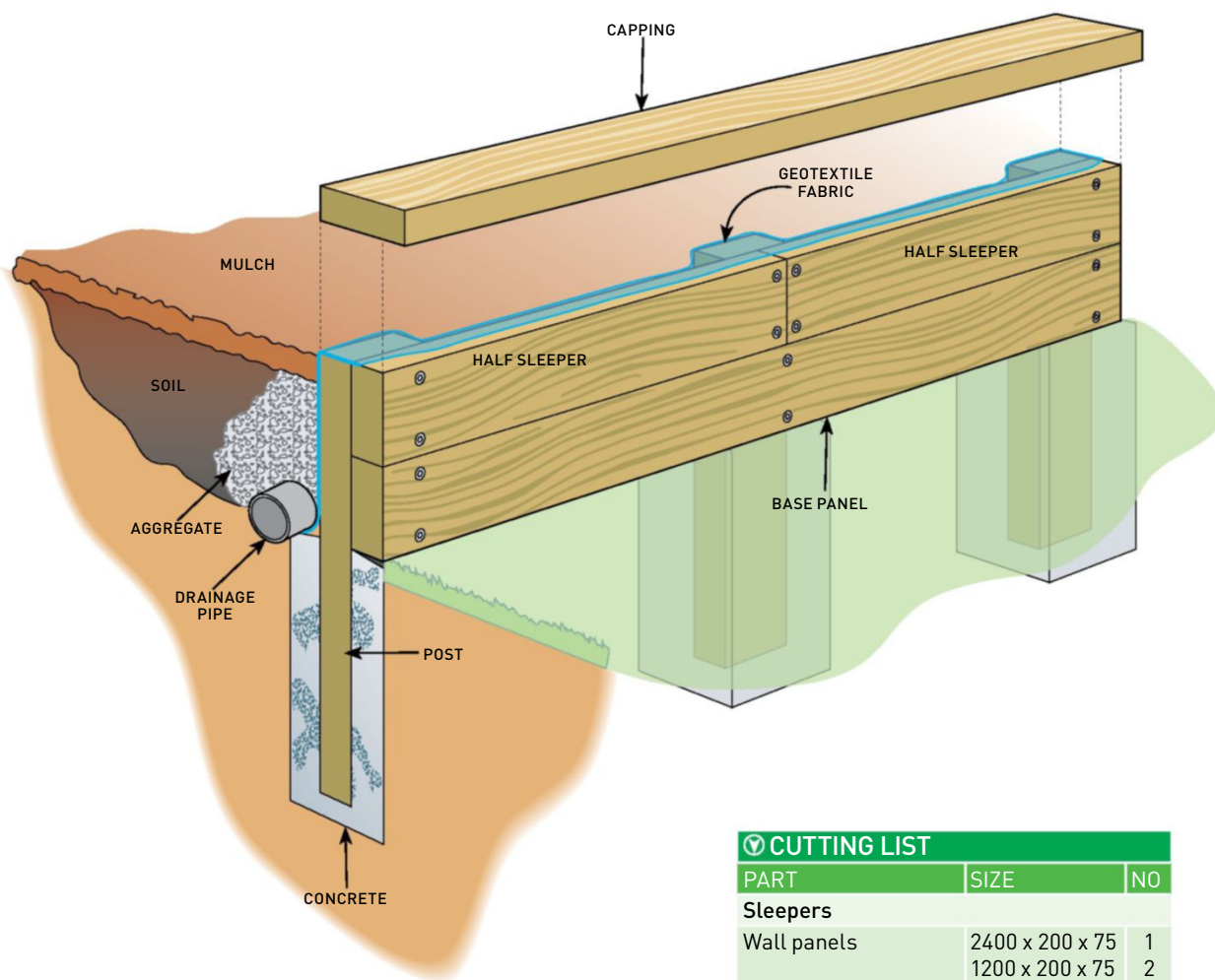
More aggregate and soil was added on top and finished with mulch. The fabric keeps the backfill in position.

It's best to connect these pipes to an existing stormwater system or run them to well-drained areas of the garden and, if necessary, create rubble dispersion pits. ➤



RETAINING WALL

measurements in mm



CUTTING LIST

PART	SIZE	NO
Sleepers		
Wall panels	2400 x 200 x 75	1
	1200 x 200 x 75	2
Posts	1200 x 200 x 75	3
Capping	2400 x 200 x 75	1

FASTENERS

TYPE	USE
G10 x 200mm cuphead bolts, washers and nuts	Wall panels
14g x 150mm galvanised batten screws	Capping

Watch the DIY video online
 Visit handymanmagazine.co.nz/retaining-wall



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1 Replace the
plasterboard

3 DAY ROOM REFRESH

Transform a living space with
plasterboard, lights and paint

PROJECT DARREN BRADFORD PICTURES GEOFF BECK

After being used as a kids' entertainment area for a number of years, this second living room had seen better days.

Featuring a TV, ping-pong table, gaming area, piano and dartboard, it had always been a great space to use when friends came to visit.

But wear and tear had started to make the room look shabby, so it was time to update the surfaces.

We replaced damaged plasterboard on one wall with new sheets, swapped the halogen downlights for LEDs, then painted the walls and ceiling.

Looking lighter and brighter, it's now a functional family room. ➤



2 Install new
downlights

3 Repaint the
walls and ceiling

DESIGN TIP

Decorate a neutral space with bright rugs, pot plants and a mix of old and new items to provide plenty of visual interest.

1 Replace the plasterboard

To help protect the plasterboard wall from stray darts, cork tiles had been installed behind and around the dartboard as an extra surface.

But the wall around the tiles had been punctured too many times for a simple repair after a lot of wayward throws, so the damaged plasterboard behind the tiles had to be replaced.

New plasterboard sheets were hung DIY to create a smooth new wall.

DIY TIP

When spreading the compound to seal the plasterboard, use just enough to fill the joints. Top up with a second application if needed.



Remove the old sheets

Take down the plasterboard wall, then cut new sheets to fit. Hang the new sheets on the wall studs, using adhesive and screws.



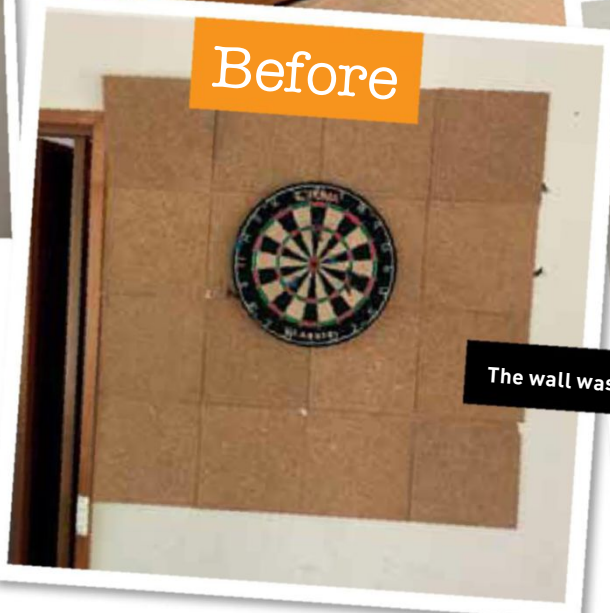
Finish the new wall

Tape and set the seams between the sheets with compound, then sand to a clean finish ready to be coated with fresh paint. ➤

After

New plasterboard takes the wall from scruffy to smooth.

Before



The wall was full of small holes from stray darts.





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*based on annual Branz report E635: Wet Area Linings Market Report



Arltec 5W Brushed Chrome LED Downlight, \$13. arlec.com.au



Philips 11W Round Cool White LED Downlight, \$78. philips.co.nz



HPM 10W LED Downlight Kit, \$63. hpm.co.nz



Deta 12W Dimmable LED Downlight, \$35, from Bunnings.

New LED downlights give the space a brighter feel.

2 Change the downlights

Of the seven halogen downlights in the room only four were working, so to create a brighter and lighter room, we replaced them with LEDs.

These efficient LED downlights use about 80% less energy than halogens, which will reduce energy costs.

An electrician had to change the downlights from halogens to LEDs, but the bulb units were changed DIY following these three easy steps.



1 **TWIST** the downlight in an anticlockwise direction.



2 **ALLOW** the downlight to drop out and into your hand.



3 **UNPLUG** the downlight IEC plug and replace it with the new LED.

3 Repaint the surfaces

Painting is an inexpensive and fast way to instantly revamp a room to make it seem larger and more open.

To prepare the room for painting, the few holes in the walls and ceiling were filled, sanded and cleaned.

Fresh paint is the easiest way to update a drab room.



▶ Watch the DIY video online

Visit handymanmagazine.co.nz/plasterboard



Paint the ceiling

Use a brush to paint the trim and cut in, then apply two coats to the ceiling with a roller. Roll the first coat in one direction and the second at a 90° angle for a streak-free finish.



Prime the plasterboard

Seal the new plasterboard wall with primer. Cut in the wall and around any light switches and electrical outlets with a brush, then use a roller to coat the wall.



Paint the walls

After the primer has fully dried, apply two coats of interior low-sheen paint to the wall. Touch up the other walls or clean with sugar soap, if needed. 🍋

DARREN'S PICKS



Dulux Ceiling White,
\$49 for 4L.
dulux.co.nz



Dulux Wash & Wear
Low Sheen Paint in Vivid
White, \$89 for 4L.



British Paints 4in1 Sealer, Primer,
Undercoat and Stain Blocker,
\$40 for 1L. britishpaints.co.nz

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FAST FACELIFT

Update surfaces on a budget to transform a dated bathroom

A modern bathroom is a sought-after feature in any home, but a reno can easily cost over \$10,000, especially with tradie fees for plumbing and electricity.

But if a bathroom has good bones, it's possible to transform the room entirely on a budget.

There are specialty paints for tiles, cabinets and benchtops, so if the colour scheme is dated, you can create a modern look for only a few hundred dollars.

Replacing damaged wall and floor tiles, and grouting, can be done DIY to give a bathroom a fresh new look for less. ➤



Before

BUDGET BATHROOM MAKEOVER



This suburban home was bought as an investment property, but the bathroom was stuck in the 1980s. Featuring pastel colours, dated patterned tiles and basic tapware, it was crying out for a makeover.

Fortunately, the layout was user-friendly and with a minor cosmetic makeover, the bathroom could be modernised for a fraction

of the price of a full reno, allowing it to be quickly put back on the market for a higher rental yield.

As the wall and floor tiles were in good condition, the old-fashioned designs were simply covered with crisp white tile paint rather than being removed and replaced.

This shortcut took just a weekend and saved thousands on the cost of

laying new tiles. The cabinets were also sound, so new handles brought them into the 21st century.

A new above-bench sink and modern streamlined tapware completed the vanity revamp.

Finally, the pastel yellow walls were painted in a more pleasing neutral tone, completing the renovation for less than \$500. ➤

ARCTIC

dazzling white & chrome



After

Tile and laminate paint transformed this bathroom, saving plenty of cash.



Paint over old tiles

Visit handymanmagazine.co.nz/tile-paint

Before



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REGROUT WALL TILES

DIY TIP

Fractures in grout and stains that won't wash out may indicate spots where water is working its way behind the tiles.

Over time grout can degrade, with small chips eventually worsening and flaking off entirely. Without grout, water can penetrate beneath tiles and cause more serious damage.

While tiles can last a lifetime, grout needs to be replaced as soon as it starts to crack or peel away. It can be done DIY for a modest outlay and completed in a weekend.

A handheld grout saw can be used to remove old grout in small areas, but to regROUT a whole bathroom, it's quicker to use an oscillating tool with a grout blade.

After grouting, seal all movement joints to prevent water penetration and extend the life of the grout.



Remove the silicone

Before regROUTing tiles, lay drop cloths, then use a utility knife to slice along the vertical and horizontal movement joints around the bathtub, in corners and along the floor.

Pull out the old silicone by hand and clean the tile edges.

Refresh the bathroom by replacing old grout DIY.

1 2 3



1 Scrape out old grout

Use a grout saw to remove at least 3mm of grout from all horizontal and vertical joint lines. Clean out the dust and loose debris using a utility knife, then vacuum. Mix grout and water to the consistency of toothpaste using a bucket, drill and paint mixing screw.



2 Grout the tiles

Spread grout at an angle to the lines with a grout float, working back and forth until the joints are full. Scrape off the excess grout, then sponge the tiles clean as soon as the grout has set, using two buckets to keep the rinse water clean.



3 Seal the joints

Buff the haze off the tiles with an old towel, then mask off either side of all movement joints with tape. Use a caulking gun to fill the joints with a bead of wet-area silicone coloured to match the grout, smooth with a wet finger and remove the tape. ➤



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REPLACE A WALL TILE

Ceramic wall tiles are extremely durable but can become cracked due to impact. And in old bathrooms, the adhesive can fail, causing tiles to become dislodged from the wall.

If only a few tiles are damaged, replace them individually and save the cost of retiling the whole wall.

Remove the grout and the tile, scrape away the old adhesive, then attach the new tile and regrout.



If you can't match the tiles, create a design feature with different ones of the same size

Single wall tiles are easily replaced and regouted.

1 2 3



1 Remove the old tile

Remove the old grout from around the damaged tile using a grout saw, being careful not to scratch the surface of surrounding tiles. Crack and ease out the tile using a hammer and cold chisel. Wear gloves and rest your hand on the wall as a brace for the chisel.



2 Apply tile adhesive

Remove the old tile adhesive from the wall using a stiff-bladed scraper. Apply tile adhesive to the back of the new tile, then position and press firmly, squeezing out excess adhesive and leaving it to dry overnight.
TIP Use tile spacers for even grout lines.



3 RegROUT the new tile

Work the grout in with a grout float held at an angle, removing the excess and cleaning the tiles with a sponge when the grout has set. Apply a grout sealer to help prevent mould and mildew growth, and to make cleaning easier.

PAIN^T OVER OLD TILES

Tile paint is a cost-effective way to refresh a kitchen or bathroom, as it creates a new look for a fraction of the price of retiling the whole area.

Designed for use on glass, porcelain and ceramic tiles, specialist tile paint won't flake off over time and is ideal for a quick cosmetic makeover.

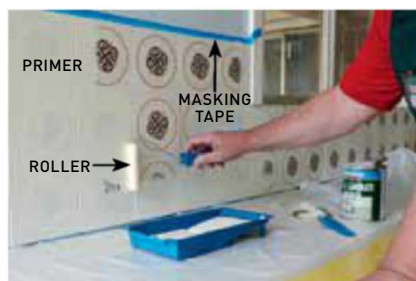
Watch the video 'How to Paint Tiles' at bunnings.co.nz/diy-advice

1 2 3



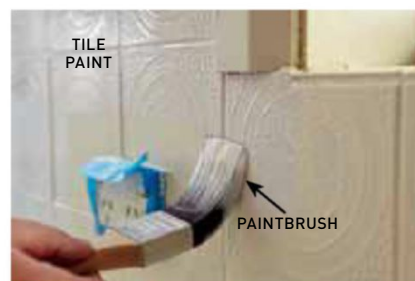
1 Prepare the surface

Clean the tiles thoroughly and allow to dry, then sand the tiles lightly to score the surface. This helps take the glaze off the surface and allows the paint to bond better to the tiles. Once the surface is sanded, wipe the dust away using a soft cloth.



2 Apply the primer

Mask off the edges with tape, then start applying primer by cutting in at the edges with a paintbrush and using a roller for the rest of the tiles. Check the instructions for the drying time. Once the primer has cured, sand the surface lightly and wipe clean.



3 Paint the tiles

Stir the paint thoroughly, then start applying the tile paint in the top corner using a paintbrush. Work your way across the tiles, maintaining a wet edge as you go to avoid overlapping brush marks. Allow to dry, then apply a second coat if necessary. ➤

REPLACE A FLOOR TILE

Replace tiles to keep the bathroom floor crack-free.

Floor tiles can crack if heavy items are dropped on them, but often the cause of cracks lies beneath the surface.

If bathroom tiles are laid over a timber subfloor, cracking could be a sign of excess movement of the subfloor. As the timber flexes, the tile remains rigid, causing stress that can possibly lead to cracks.

On a concrete subfloor, tile cracks could be the result of the substrate cracking over time, causing the tile above to break. If tiles are laid over control joints in a concrete slab, this can also cause damage.

When removing a cracked tile, inspect the subfloor underneath to ensure it is in good condition before laying the new tile.

1 2 3



1 Break up the tile

Make holes in the damaged tile in an X shape using an impact drill with a masonry bit. Use a cold chisel to remove the damaged tile from the centre out, then scrape away the old adhesive on the floor underneath using a putty knife.



2 Lay the new tile

Apply tile adhesive to the floor and tile using a square notch trowel, pressing the tile into position with a twisting motion. Position tile spacers, level the surface using a spirit level and tap with a rubber mallet, leaving it to set for 12 hours.



3 Apply the grout

Mix the grout until it's the consistency of toothpaste, matching the colour to the existing grout. Use a grout float to spread the grout, forcing it into the joints. Remove the excess and when the grout has set, clean the tile surface with a damp sponge.

WHAT YOU NEED



EziTile Grout
Saw, \$14,
from Bunnings.



EziTile Handyman
Pointed Grout Float,
about \$19.



Selleys All Clear Multipurpose
Co-Polymer Sealant,
about \$16. selleys.co.nz



Long Life Grout
Cleaner, \$10 for 750ml,
from Bunnings.



Cemix Floor Tile
Adhesive, about \$38
for 5kg. cemix.co.nz



Cemix Grout Sealer,
about \$22
for 500ml.



Cemix Pre-mixed
White Grout,
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INSTALL A NEW LAUNDRY

Use clever storage solutions to turn a basic room into a tidy workspace

Although it's often the last room on the renovation list, having a laundry that's a hub for all things cleaning can make it easier to keep the home tidy.

The laundry in this suburban house was basic, with only a double sink, washing machine and minimal storage, and badly needed an overhaul.

While there was plenty of space in the room, the lack of cabinets meant unsightly equipment was kept in the open, making the space look messy.

The room was redesigned as part of a larger renovation that extended the home, leaving a blank slate for a functional and organised laundry.



A layout change is worth the expense if it boosts storage

Find it at Bunnings

Use a Flatpax 450mm Linen Chute, \$258.92, to conceal washing.



After

The new laundry boasts impressive storage in a compact space.

DESIGN TIP

To add visual interest, lay white rectangular subway wall tiles in a herringbone pattern and choose a benchtop in a contrasting colour.



Specialised storage

Bulky, awkward equipment has been incorporated into the cabinetry of the laundry, freeing up floorspace and creating an orderly, streamlined look.

The built-in hamper was conveniently installed next to the washing machine and keeps dirty clothes hidden. The dryer was mounted overhead to allow space for cabinets below.

A drying cabinet has been included to air clothes, expanding from the wall and packing away neatly when not in use.

Watch the video 'How to Design a Laundry' at bunnings.co.nz/diy-advice

SPACE SAVERS

Hang washing on a Flatpax 900mm Utility Drying Cabinet, \$205.45.

Before

When designing a laundry, it is important to consider how the room will be used. In the majority of homes, laundries have to double as a space for washing clothes and a storage area for cleaning equipment.

This laundry was designed around the basics, with a washing machine

tucked neatly underneath the large benchtop and a deep sink adjacent, with a wall mixer to maximise space.

Cabinets were selected based on what needed to be stored, with space allocated for tall gear, such as brooms and vacuum cleaners, and pigeon holes for small, frequently used items. 🧹



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Handyman is giving away four Ozito power tool packs for Father's Day

Give a handy dad everything he needs to power through his DIY to-do list with ease by entering our comp to win an Ozito Power X Change pack, valued at \$427 each.

For your chance to win, simply go to handymanmagazine.co.nz/ozito and tell us in 25 words or less why your dad should have this DIY pack.

Entries close 24 August 2016 and the winners will be announced online in October 2016. See the website for the full terms and conditions.



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REMEMBER,
4 SEPTEMBER IS
**FATHER'S
DAY**

THE CHANCE TO GIVE DAD
A GIFT HE WON'T FORGET

**HAPPY
FATHER'S DAY!**

A Handyman gallery of great gift
ideas for your dad's dream shed

ozito
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CHANGING



» **POWER THROUGH** the garden chores this Father's Day with the Power X Change Lawn Mower Kit, \$499. Lightweight, with six-position cutting height adjustment and a 40L grass catcher, this cordless mower is perfect for medium to small lawns. The kit includes two 18V lithium ion batteries and two fast chargers.

ozito.co.nz

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» **ARMED WITH** the Karcher K4 Premium Water Blaster, \$589, Dad can handle all cleaning tasks around the home with ease. Packed with performance-enhancing technology, including a water-cooled induction motor and pump that's guaranteed to be corrosion free for life, this grunty unit gets the job done quickly and easily compared to traditional cleaning methods.

karcher.co.nz



RYOBI



» **PUT A SMILE** on Dad's face with the Ryobi 18V ONE+ Two-piece Combo Kit, \$369. Ryobi's ONE+ 18V system features more than 40 tools that use the same battery platform, giving you the ultimate versatility in tool selection to get your job done. No matter how you add it up, ONE+ is the integrated system that delivers more.

ryobi.co.nz

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» **GOOD LUCK** for Father's Day and see how to enter this competition plus the Terms and Conditions on the back cover of this magazine.

selleys.co.nz



» **GET DAD** a quality tiedown from Aerofast Tiedowns. Made in New Zealand, it's a practical gift that will last for many Father's Days to come. Aerofast have a wide range of products with something to suit dads who are into everything from DIY, motorcycles and 4WDs to boating. Aerofast have been manufacturing New Zealand's leading tiedowns for more than 30 years.

aerofast.co.nz



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wd40.com.au



» **IS YOUR DAD** a woodworker? Stuck on finding a Father's Day gift for someone who has everything? Look at our newly rebranded Gorilla range for a high-quality glue that creates a bond as strong as the one between you and your dad. Give him a gift he'll really use this year.

holdfast.co.nz

SCHLAGE



» **PUT AN END** to fumbling for keys in the dark or losing them while out fishing by installing a Schlage Touch Keyless Deadbolt. It easily retro-fits in place of existing deadbolts, is simple to use and hard to break. With up to 19 user codes and an illuminated touch keypad, it is perfect for any home or family.

schlage.co.nz

DREMEL



» **LOOKING FOR** the perfect gift for Dad or an idea for your next project? Check out the Dremel Derby Kit, \$149. It comes with the tools and accessories for you to build your very own derby car. The versatile Dremel 3000 combines power and precision for detailed work and fits all Dremel accessories and attachments.

dremel.co.nz

ToolWare

» **GET TO GRIPS** with any job in Estwing Synthetic Leather Palm Gloves, \$50. These multi-purpose gloves have a tough, synthetic leather palm and a breathable, durable spandex back of hand. The palms and fingertips are reinforced with PVC.



- Four-way stretch improves fit and comfort.
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- Available in small, medium, large and extra large.

toolware.co.nz

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» **CLEAN EVERYTHING** from decks and driveways to walls, garage floors, stairs, outdoor furniture, vehicles and paths with the Briggs & Stratton 2320 Electric Pressure Washer, \$299. It has the power to quickly blast away built-up mould, mildew, dirt and grime to restore surfaces to like-new condition. This smart machine comes with a patio cleaner brush as standard.



briggsandstratton.com

BOSCH
Invented for life



» **MAKE DAD** happy with a PSR 18 LI-2 Ergo Drill with bonus 91-piece Accessory Set, \$269. The Ergo features a syneon chip that controls the power used for different applications to maximise battery life. Its brushless motor and anti-kickback sensor make it safe and ideal for any DIYer.

bosch-do-it.co.nz

WAGNER



» **SAVE DAD** time on painting jobs with the Wagner Flexio 585 Spray Gun, \$346. Its X-Boost turbine provides enough power to spray on any conventional paints undiluted. The turbine's power can be varied to suit any coating with precise control, and the volume of paint can also be adjusted to suit the material being sprayed and the project type.
wagneraustralia.com.au

Cabot's



» **PROTECT TIMBER** from the harsh sun this summer and fight the visible signs of aging by transforming tired, weathered decking with Cabot's AquaDeck, \$77.48 for 5L, and Cabot's Deck Clean, \$29.85 for 1L. AquaDeck is an affordable, water-based decking oil that is quick and easy to use, but lasts twice as long as traditional oil-based decking oils.
cabots.co.nz

metal-mate
 by mmm



» **DADS LIKE** to tackle all kinds of DIY projects and easy-to-install Metal Mate Mini Ripple Iron is an ideal way to clad and decorate walls, fences, sheds, animal shelters, cubby houses, bars, outdoor garden features and much more. Used vertically or horizontally there are endless design ideas for a modern profile or traditional look. The galvanised finish assists in protecting against corrosion.
metalmate.co.nz

GARDENA



» **AT THE PRESS** of a button the GARDENA Battery-Powered Comfort Wall-Mounted Hose Box 35 automatically winds in the hose thanks to a powerful lithium-ion rechargeable battery. The 35m-long hose can be effortlessly withdrawn, the unit can be swivelled through 180°, and an integrated guide prevents any twisting and tangling of the hose.
gardena.com

BAHCO



» **FOR FAST** and accurate cutting, Bahco saws are made for the job. The Bahco 475mm Handsaw, \$13, will cut all types of timber, has hardpoint teeth for lasting sharpness and comes with a plastic clip-on tooth guard. The Bahco Folding Pruning Saw, \$40, has patented XT7 tooth technology for fast cuts in hard, living or dry wood. This pocket-size saw is ideal for clean-up jobs in the garden. Both saws are made in Sweden using high-quality steel.

bahco.nz

ZIRCON



» **MAKE DAD'S LIFE** so much easier with the Zircon StudSensor HD55, \$60. The deep-scanning stud finder has a Target Spotlight that illuminates onscreen when you've found the stud edge. As a Father's Day special in Bunnings, buy an HD55 and you'll get a 23cm torpedo level free.

toolware.co.nz

Lynn River
YOU'RE IN SAFE HANDS



» **MAKE WINTER** yard work much more comfortable for Dad with Lynn River Showa 306 Gloves, \$26. These gloves have a water repellent coating and a seamless knit design. Their breathability reduces perspiration in hot conditions and improves dryness in the wet, so you need only one type of glove whatever the weather.

lynnriver.co.nz

Evacut
PRECISION CUTTING TOOLS



» **EVERY DAD** would be pleased to receive a quality New Zealand-made Evacut EM3 Drill Set, \$163, this Father's Day. The 25 precision metric-sized jobber bits are designed to drill through the toughest wood, metal and plastic. They are made of high-speed steel and are packaged in a durable ABS plastic case.

pandn.co.nz



JUST FOR DAD

Whip up a special Father's Day gift in less than an hour for under \$10

PROJECT AND PICTURES MELISSA DARR

Crafty blogger Melissa Darr created this picture in under an hour, costing her less than \$10.

'I've got an easy and super quick Father's Day gift for you,' she says.

'If you're like me and leave presents for Father's Day to the last minute, then this word art is what you need. I made one very similar to this for my mum, and I have one for myself hanging on my office wall.'

WHAT YOU NEED

➤ **COMPUTER** You don't have to be tech savvy to create this picture. Just a basic knowledge of Microsoft Word, or a similar program, is all you need.

➤ **PRINTER** This is a must, but if you don't own one, you can pop down to your local stationery store to print it there. A basic ink jet printer, like Melissa has, is all that's required.

Melissa

EXPERT SECRETS

If you like the quote used here, you're in luck. You can download a free printable PDF of it, which will save you time searching the internet. Go to my blog, click on Projects and you'll find it under Crafts & Decorating.

1 2 3



1 Choose a quote

Turn on your computer and browse the internet to find a meaningful quote or saying for your father. Or visit Pinterest and search for Father's Day quotes and you'll find lots of different ones are available.



2 Create a design

Use Microsoft Word, or a similar program, to type the quote in your favourite font. To add interest, use different-sized words throughout the quote. Select the size and type of paper you're going to print on.



3 Frame the word art

Choose a frame for the print. Here, a white 20 x 25cm frame that cost about \$9, was used. This fits an A4 print. Before printing, do a test print to check the spacing is correct. Let it dry, if needed, then fit it into the frame.



FATHER'S DAY

DIY TIP

Have a look around the house for an old sheet of music or other piece of decorative paper to print your word art on.



Make the most important word in the quote red so it stands out.

Get more DIY from Melissa
follow her blog thewhimsicalwife.com

Foodie FAVES

Cook Dad a feast this year and give him this book full of blokey recipes

WORDS AND PICTURES PAUL MERCURIO



Paul Mercurio is on a mission to tempt more people into the kitchen. Designed to help you embrace your inner chef and 'get your mojo on', his latest cookbook, *Kitchen Mojo* (\$45, allenandunwin.co.nz), has over 120 mouth-watering recipes that are easy to make and even easier to eat.

Barbecued lamb ribs

Ingredients

1 teaspoon fennel seeds
1 teaspoon cumin seeds
1 teaspoon garlic powder
1 teaspoon celery salt
1 teaspoon sweet paprika
1 teaspoon dried rosemary
1 teaspoon dried thyme
½ teaspoon salt
½ teaspoon freshly ground black pepper
3 trimmed lamb rib racks (about 1kg)

'SLAW

75g thinly sliced green cabbage
75g thinly sliced red cabbage
50g thinly sliced snow peas
1 carrot, julienned
2 cheeks red capsicum, thinly sliced
2 tablespoons mixed seeds (pumpkin and sunflower seeds and pine nuts)
235g whole-egg mayonnaise
55g caster sugar
2 tablespoons white wine vinegar
2 teaspoons horseradish cream
Salt and freshly ground black pepper

Method

① **PREHEAT** the barbecue grill to medium-high. Dry-fry the fennel and cumin seeds in a small frying

pan over high heat until they begin to lightly smoke. Turn off the heat and tip the seeds into a mortar, then use the pestle to grind them into a powder. Add the rest of the herbs and spices and grind together well to make a rub.

② **COVER** the lamb ribs generously with the rub, then place the ribs, fat or meat side down, onto the hot barbecue grill. The fat from the ribs will render out and baste the ribs, but you do need to keep an eye on them in case you get flare-ups, where the fat catches fire. If this happens, move the ribs out of the fire to another part of the grill and continue cooking. Don't worry if the ribs get a little charred from the flames, as that's all part of the theatre and the taste of a barbie!

③ **COOK** the rib racks for about 5-7 minutes, turn them over and cook for a further 5-7 minutes, then remove them from the heat.

④ **CUT** the racks into separate ribs and pile them high on a plate so people can help themselves. Watch mates carefully, though, as once they start eating these, they won't be able to stop and you may not get any.

⑤ **MAKE** the 'slaw by putting all the vegetables and seeds in a large salad bowl and mixing to combine well. Put the mayonnaise, caster sugar, white wine vinegar and horseradish cream in a small bowl and whisk to combine well. Taste to season. Pour the dressing over the 'slaw, toss together and serve.

TIP You'll find mixed seeds in the health food aisle of the supermarket or in health-food shops. ➤



Enjoy these barbecue ribs on their own or make them go further by serving them with an incredibly moreish coleslaw



FATHER'S DAY

Feeds 2-4



Dip the ribs in a tomato chilli chutney to add a little spice.





FATHER'S DAY

Feeds 4



If you like your lamb stew hot and spicy, Paul recommends using four chillies.

Rich spiced lamb stew

Ingredients

80ml olive oil
1 large red onion, sliced
4 garlic cloves, roughly chopped
1 tablespoon ground cumin
1 tablespoon sweet paprika
1 tablespoon chilli powder
600g deboned lamb leg, cut into roughly 2cm cubes
250ml Belgian double ale
1 red bird's-eye chilli, sliced
45g sultanas
6 semi-dried dates (such as medjool)
1 cinnamon stick
Salt and freshly ground black pepper
15g chopped coriander
7g chopped flat-leaf parsley
3 roma tomatoes, cut into wedges
45g sliced kale
Couscous or potatoes, to serve

Method

① **HEAT** the olive oil in a deep-sided large frying pan or flameproof casserole dish with a lid over medium-high heat. Add the onion and garlic and fry, stirring often, for 8-10 minutes. Add the cumin, paprika and chilli powder, stirring to combine, and fry for a couple more minutes.
② **INCREASE** the heat to high and add the lamb. Stir well to coat with spice mix, then brown for about 10 minutes. Stir in the beer and 150ml of water, then stir in the sliced chilli, sultanas, dates and cinnamon. Season, then add the fresh herbs. Reduce the heat to a simmer, cover, and cook for 1½ hours or until the meat is quite tender, checking it after an hour.
③ **ADD** the tomato wedges and kale to the stew, stirring to combine, then simmer for a further 10 minutes. You may need to add a little extra water, as the stew can become a little dry. It is meant to be a thick dry-style stew, not a wet stew with lots of liquid.
④ **SERVE** with couscous, or mashed or boiled potatoes.



Feeds 4-6

Nachos extraordinaire

Ingredients

2 tablespoons olive oil
1 small onion, finely diced
1 fresh jalapeño chilli, finely diced
1 garlic clove, finely chopped
½ teaspoon ground cumin
1 teaspoon Mexican chilli powder
1 teaspoon smoky paprika
150g minced pork
150g lean minced beef
1 tomato, diced
2 tablespoons store-bought black bean and chipotle salsa
2 tablespoons store-bought roasted tomatillo salsa
6 tablespoons chopped pickled jalapeño chillies
Salt and freshly ground black pepper
220g Mexican refried beans
420g kidney beans
1 large packet good-quality plain or lightly salted corn chips
150g grated cheddar cheese
1 large avocado, roughly mashed
125g sour cream

Method

① **PREHEAT** the oven to 200°C (180°C fan-forced). Heat the olive oil in a large frying pan over medium-high heat.

Add the onion and fresh jalapeño and cook until the onion is translucent. Add the garlic and cook for a couple more minutes. Add the cumin, chilli powder and paprika, and fry until fragrant and well combined.

② **INCREASE** the heat to high and add the pork and beef. Use a wooden spoon to break up the meat and cook until the meat is evenly browned. Add the tomato, salsas and 2 tablespoons of the jalapeños. Reduce the heat to medium and cook for several minutes. Season, remove from the heat and set aside.

③ **SPREAD** the refried beans 1cm thick in an ovenproof casserole dish, then spread with a third of the kidney beans. Place the corn chips upright in the bean mix. Sprinkle over the rest of the beans, 2 tablespoons of the jalapeños, then the meat mixture, making sure it falls down the crevices. Sprinkle over the remaining jalapeños, then the cheese. Bake until the cheese melts.

④ **PUT** the mashed avocado on one side of the nachos and the sour cream on the other, then dig in.

TIP Take the time to stand each corn chip upright in the beans to avoid soggy nachos. It's worth it. ➤



FATHER'S DAY

Enjoy this marinated chicken with a fresh garden salad.

Feeds 4

Beer and herb-marinated chicken

Ingredients

60ml olive oil
60ml lemon juice
125ml good quality craft beer
2 tablespoons soy sauce
2 garlic cloves, crushed
1 red chilli, chopped
2 spring onions, finely chopped
1 teaspoon Mexican chilli powder
¼ teaspoon sugar
15g chopped basil
15g chopped flat-leaf parsley
15g chopped coriander leaves
Freshly ground black pepper
1 free-range chicken (about 1.7kg)

Method

1 COMBINE all the ingredients except the chicken in a mixing bowl, then set aside while you prepare the chicken.

2 CUT down either side of the backbone of the chicken with kitchen scissors and remove, reserving for making chicken stock. Turn the chicken over so the breast is facing up and use the palms of your hands to press down firmly on the breastbone so it breaks and the chicken is splayed out flat. Use a sharp knife to cut the chicken in half, each with a leg and a breast. Score the flesh four or five times on each half to allow the marinade to get into the meat.

3 PUT the chicken in a non-metallic large dish, breast side down, and spoon over some of the marinade, then turn the halves over and pour over the rest of the marinade. Use your hands to rub the herbs over the chicken and into the cuts you made

when you scored the chicken. Leave to marinate in the fridge for at least an hour, spooning the marinade over the chicken every 15 minutes or so.

4 HEAT a barbecue grill with a lid for 15 minutes to medium-high. Put the chicken halves on the grill, skin side down, cover, and cook for 10 minutes. Turn over the chicken, cover and cook for a further 10 minutes, spooning over marinade. Turn over the chicken and spoon on more marinade. Reduce the heat to medium and cook for about 10-15 minutes, spooning over more marinade after 10 minutes. Turn over the chicken and cook for 15-20 minutes until the chicken is cooked through, tipping on any remaining marinade.

5 SERVE the marinated chicken with the salad of your choice.



To save time, buy vacuum-packed cleaned mussels and simply tip them in the pot.

Feeds 4

Mussel soup

Ingredients

2kg blue mussels
4 tablespoons unsalted butter
3 garlic cloves, finely chopped
3 red bird's-eye chillies, thinly sliced
2 tablespoons chopped flat-leaf parsley, plus 10g extra
250ml dry white wine
1 tablespoon olive oil
2 leeks, white part only, finely chopped
800g diced tomatoes
Freshly ground black pepper
10g chopped basil
4 pieces lemon rind, finely sliced
Crusty bread, to serve

Method

① **SCRUB** and debeard the mussels, discarding any with broken shells, then set aside the rest in a colander.

Melt half the butter in a big saucepan over medium-high heat. Add half of the garlic and half of the chilli and fry gently until aromatic, taking care not to burn them. Add the 2 tablespoons of parsley and cook for 2 minutes.

② **INCREASE** the heat to high and add the mussels and 125ml of the wine. Cover and cook for several minutes, shaking the pan to encourage the mussels to open. Once you see steam forcing itself out from under the lid, check if all or most of the mussels are open. If so, remove the pan from the heat, pour the contents of the pan into a colander sitting over a bowl to catch all the cooking liquid. Set aside.

③ **HEAT** the remaining butter and the olive oil over medium heat in the same pan. Add the leek and cook

gently for 5 minutes, then add the remaining garlic and chilli and gently cook for 2-3 minutes or until the garlic is translucent. Increase the heat to high, add the remaining wine and the tomatoes and stir to combine. Strain the cooking liquid through a fine-mesh sieve into the pan. Season with lots of pepper and bring to the boil. Reduce the heat and simmer for 20 minutes.

④ **ADD** the extra parsley, basil and lemon rind, allowing the flavours to blend for 5-8 minutes. Add the mussels and stir to get all the broth through them, then cook for 1-2 minutes to heat the mussels through.

⑤ **DIVIDE** between four big deep bowls and serve with freshly baked crusty bread and a spoon to slurp up the fantastic broth. 🍴



It's a good idea to change the locks if you've recently moved house.

CHANGE THE LOCKS

Improve security without breaking the bank by replacing lock cylinders DIY

WORDS AND PICTURES GUN ARVIDSSEN

After buying a house, changing the locks is always a wise move, preferably before you move in.

Most often, you will only need to replace the cylinder, which is the part that accepts the key and releases the locking mechanism when it's turned.

Fortunately, most cylinders can be easily replaced DIY, and it is often possible to source new ones that are keyed alike for greater convenience.

We replaced the cylinders from the locksets on a back door and sliding doors, and the deadbolt on a front door.

Lockset cylinders

This back door was fitted with a lever set with twin oval cylinders that can be locked from both sides.

When changing cylinders DIY, consider whether you want them to be keyed alike with any other doors and what type of finish you want.

You will also need to specify the cam type of your existing cylinders. This is often embossed on the cam.

GUN'S PICKS



Lockwood 001 Bright Chrome Deadlatch, about \$143. assaabloy.co.nz



Schlage Regent Stainless Steel Deadbolt, \$43. schlage.co.nz



Sylvan Newton Chrome Plated Entrance Lever Handle, about \$67. sylvan.co.nz



Hume Doors Verve2 Glazed Entrance Door, 1980 x 860 x 40mm, about \$642. doors.co.nz



Schlage FE Series Elan Keyless Entry Lock, \$335.



1 Remove the old cylinders

Use a cordless drill with a Phillips drive bit to remove the screws from the door edge plate. Prise out the cylinder retaining pin slightly using a flat-head screwdriver, removing the pin the rest of the way with pliers. Remove the cylinder and repeat on the other side.



2 Install the replacements

Check that the cam on the new cylinder is in the same orientation as the one that was removed, turning it using the key if necessary. Slot the cylinder into position and replace the retaining pin. Insert the new cylinder on the other side of the door.



3 Secure the edge plate

Apply a thread locker to the edge-plate screws and inside the screw holes. Replace the edge plate, then use a manual screwdriver when winding the machine screws back in to avoid over-tightening, which may cause them to cam out. ➤

DIY TIP

Make sure the tailpiece of any replacement cylinder is compatible with the openings in your existing bolt mechanisms.

Patio doors can usually be locked from both inside and out.

Sliding-door lock

Sliding doors are a popular option in renovations and new home designs.

Replacing the cylinders in their locksets isn't any harder than doing the same with standard doors.

But bear in mind when buying your replacement that there are several different cylinder formats available, and they are not all compatible with one another.



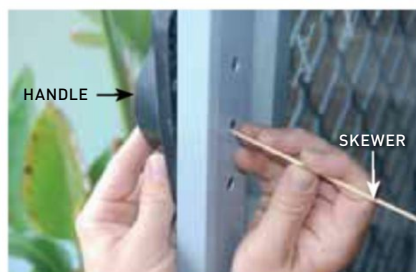
Locking systems in patio doors are typically secured through the frame, meaning it isn't necessary to drill through the glass pane of the door.

1 2 3



1 Disassemble the lockset

Use a cordless drill with a Phillips drive bit to remove the screws, securing the handle casing to the lockset on the door interior. Remove the machine screws, separating the two halves of the lock from either side of the door, and extract the old cylinders.



2 Install the outer cylinder

Use compound pliers or side cutters to trim the new tailpiece to the same length as the original and insert the cylinder into the exterior part of the lock. Feed the tailpiece through the door, using a skewer to prevent it from catching on the edge of the hole.



3 Reattach the interior side

Align the interior half of the lock assembly and replace the machine screws to secure the two halves to the frame. Position the interior-side cylinder in the handle assembly and align the slot with the tailpiece, then reattach the handle with screws. ➤



The old way in is on the way out. With Schlage Touch™, no key means there's nothing to lose, nothing to fiddle with, and—for intruders—nothing to pick. All in a slim profile that's every bit as sleek as it is strong.

The keyless era starts at schlage.co.nz



STRONG HAS A NAME.™

Double-cylinder deadbolt

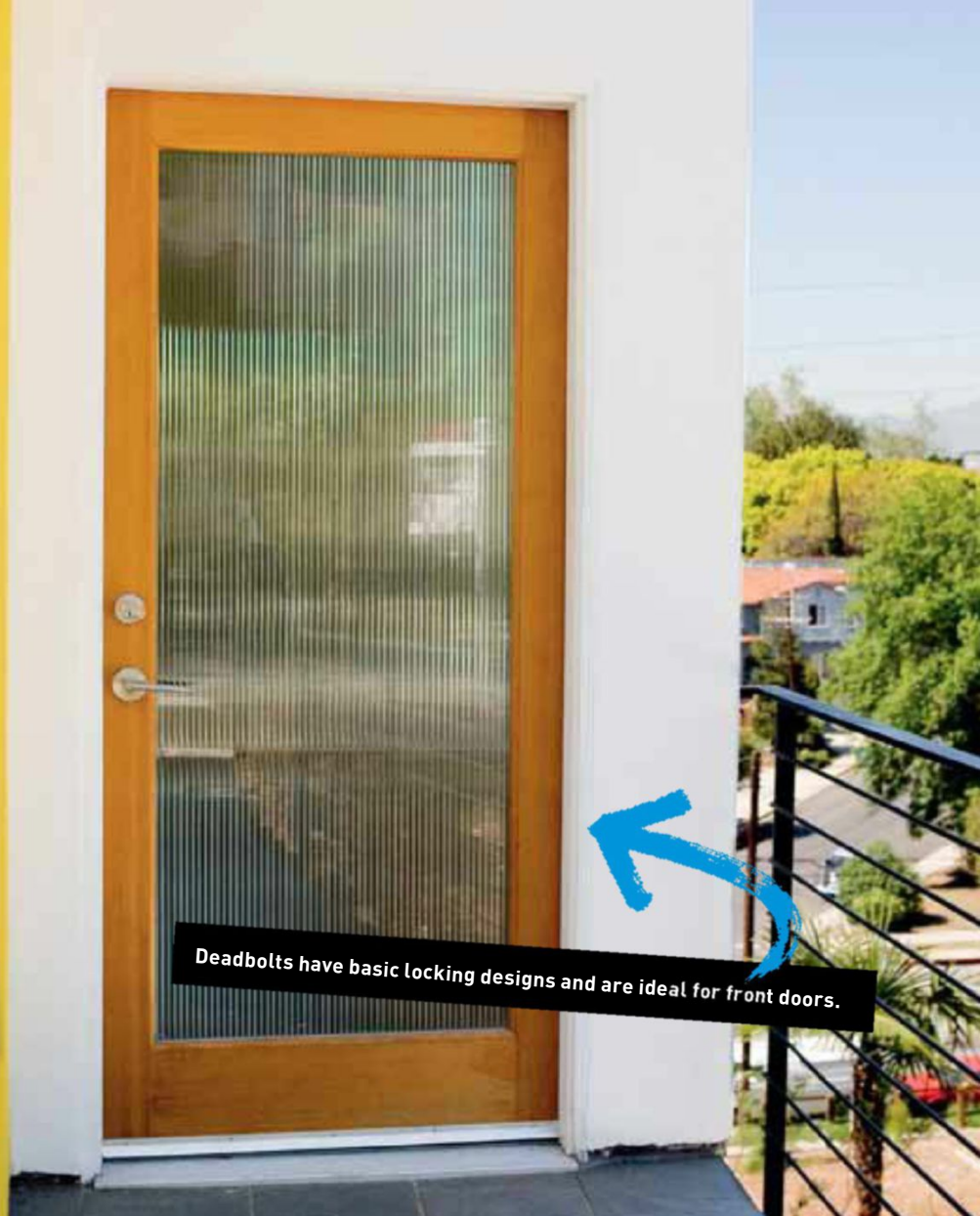
A deadbolt typically comprises little more than the cylinder itself and the bolt it throws, plus a mount or rosette to hold it in position on the door.

Because of its basic design, there's often not much of a price difference in replacing the cylinder alone, so with this door, we installed a whole new deadbolt assembly.

This lock's forked tailpiece matched the existing bolt, so it did not need to be replaced, meaning a fresh new look for minimal effort.



In this deadbolt, the two cylinders are joined by a forked tailpiece that interlocks through a cross-shaped opening in the bolt mechanism.



Deadbolts have basic locking designs and are ideal for front doors.

1 2 3



1 Replacing a deadbolt

Use a cordless drill with a suitable drive bit to remove the machine screws holding the two cylinders together from the inside of the door.

TIP If the screws are covered or capped, remove using an old utility knife blade, or drill through the covers for access.



2 Reassemble the lock

Remove the old cylinders and align the new ones with the openings in the bolt mechanism. If the cylinders have forked tailpieces, ensure each side is in the correct orientation, either vertical or horizontal. Wind in the screws just enough to hold the assembly together.



3 Tighten the screws

Use the supplied Allen key to tighten the machine screws and secure the two cylinder mounts on either side of the door. Test that the key throws the bolt smoothly, then push the supplied cover studs into the holes over the hex socket screws for a flush finish. ●



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Marble hearth

Update the fireplace DIY in a day by installing a new stone slab

PROJECT AND PICTURES SUE FERRIS



The original hearthstone for the fireplace in the home of *Handyman* photographer Sue Ferris had been replaced with slate.

While the tiles were in good shape, they didn't suit the period cottage and Sue wanted a stone slab for the hearth. Hearthstones are usually slate, granite, limestone or marble, but not all are suitable for a wood-burning fire.

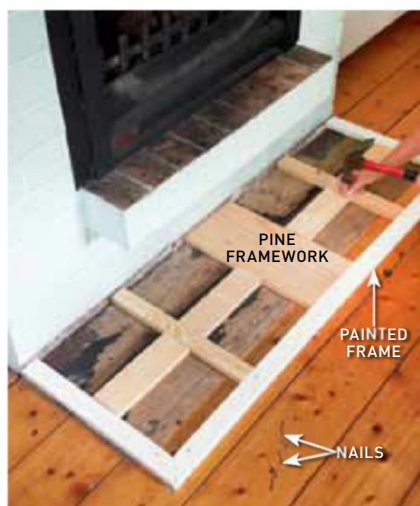
Sue chose marble, which is the most costly option but has excellent heat resistance and can be used with gas, electric or wood fires.

Replacing a hearthstone is a DIY job. Here, the slate tiles were removed using a hammer and chisel to reveal the floorboards. Timber and FC sheet were cut for a base frame and quad moulding used to trim the stone slab.

What you need

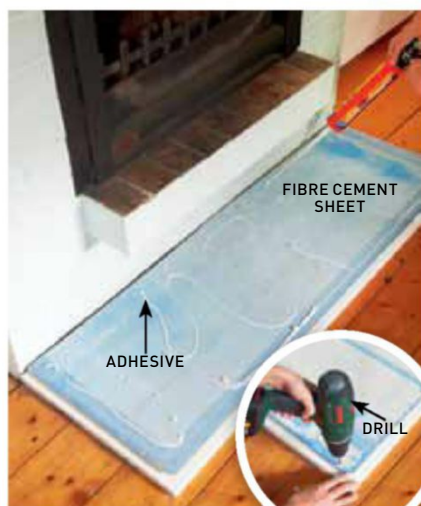
19mm D&R pine
Fibre cement sheet
10 and 15mm timber nails
Selleys Allfix Adhesive
Sikaflex-MS Sealant
15mm quad moulding

1 2 3



1 Build the frame

Mark the area for the new stone, then cut pine to length with mitred ends for the frame. Paint the frame, then nail in position. Cut more pieces of pine for the framework, securing with nails. Punch all nail heads flush with the surface.



2 Lay the base

Cut fibre cement sheet to the size of the stone using an angle grinder and diamond blade. Apply a high-strength adhesive to the underside, turn over and predrill holes to secure with screws, ensuring they're flush with the surface.



3 Install the stone

Cut quad to length with mitred ends for trim. Apply adhesive to the stone, position on the fibre cement and press firmly. Predrill the trim and secure with adhesive and nails. Fill the gap between the trim and stone using sealant.

After

Polished marble gives the fireplace a sleek new look.

BUDGET TIP

Granite costs less and is harder than marble, comes in lots of colours and can be left rough or polished to a smooth sheen.

OFFICE OVERHAUL

Create a work space on a budget using easy upcycling techniques

PROJECTS AND PICTURES MELISSA DARR



The home office of DIY blogger Melissa Darr was badly in need of a makeover. Most of the space was taken up by a bulky 80s-style desk, which was the first thing to go.

Melissa wanted to incorporate her photography studio into the room, leaving only a corner for the office, so she needed a desk small enough for the space but big enough to work at.

'I wanted something with character that wasn't run of the mill,' she says.

To create a compact work space with vintage chic, she refinished an old desk and shelf with paint and stain.

She then revamped a metal filing cabinet and turned it into living room furniture, and made a mesh memo board to use with a modern desk or side table for decorative display.



Melissa

EXPERT SECRETS

Look for furniture hardware on eBay as you can find really good deals on interesting pieces.

Treat the home office as part of the decorating story of your home, not a separate space

1 2 3



1 Sand the timber

To remove layers of paint quickly and effectively, use a belt sander on the desktop. Take it back to raw timber and give it a smooth finish to prepare for painting. Sand the smaller surfaces with a detail sander. Use a soft-bristled hearth brush to remove all dust.



2 Stain the desktop

Apply 2-3 coats of stain to the desktop until the desired depth of colour is achieved, then leave to dry. Undercoat the rest of the timber with a stain blocking primer and leave to dry. **TIP** Cabot's Water Based Stain in Brazilian Roast was used.



3 Apply the paint

Use a roller on large surfaces and a brush for fiddly areas to apply two coats of paint to the primed timber. Let it dry overnight, then sand back for a distressed finish, concentrating on corners and edges. Seal the top with a clear gloss polyurethane.

After

The desk is transformed from retro trash into vintage chic.



Melissa picked up this desk at her local op-shop for \$15. It was small enough to go in the corner of the room but would fit the computer with room left over.

'It had a faux-pine stain that gave it an orange glow. The good thing about ugly pieces is that you can pick them up for next to nothing,' she says.

She gave the desk a rich stained top and coloured base, then added a floating shelf with a distressed finish. A vintage chair completed the look. ➤



STAINED SHELF

This shelf was originally located in Melissa's laundry, which she recently renovated, and it had been sitting under her house ever since.

'I knew we'd use it for something one day. It started its life as a plain piece of pine board with bronze-look brackets holding it in place. It looks very different now,' she says.

Melissa painted the shelf white and sanded it back for the rustic look. She then experimented with creating her own timber stain using vinegar.

To wall-mount the shelf, she used the brackets to hang it from the top rather than underneath.

TIP The type of vinegar used will affect the colour of the timber stain.

1 2



1 Prepare the brackets

Remove any grime and flaking paint on the brackets using a wire brush, then spray with a couple of coats of matt black primer and paint in one, allowing it to dry completely in between coats. Sand the shelf lightly and apply two coats of white paint.



2 Sand the timber

To give the timber a distressed look, use an orbital sander with 120 grit paper, concentrating on the edges. Smooth off any rough areas using 180 grit paper. Apply a timber stain, let dry, then secure the brackets using screws. Mount the shelf on the wall.



All you need to make a timber stain DIY is a lidded glass jar, two types of vinegar and steel wool.



Create a timber stain

Melissa created a homemade stain to use on her shelf.

- + **CUT** three 10cm pieces of super fine steel wool and put in a glass jar.
- + **ADD** 1½ cups white vinegar and ½ cup balsamic vinegar, making sure the steel wool is covered.
- + **PUT** the lid on the jar and store in a cool place for 5-7 days. The longer it brews, the richer the stain colour.
- + **WIPE** a piece of steel wool over the timber in the direction of the grain. Dip and wipe until done.
- + **LET** the stain dry for 1-2 hours, adding more for a deeper finish. ➤





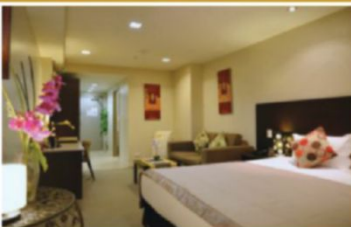
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CABINET COVER-UP

When home office furniture starts to overflow into your living space, the solution is simpler than you think.

'Most office furniture is functional but not always attractive, so if you have an old filing cabinet sitting in a corner of your home like I did, give it a much-needed makeover with a few simple modifications,' says Melissa.

'This is a great project for the novice DIYer, as only a handful of materials and a free weekend are needed to give a metal filing cabinet a spectacular new look.'



Make office furniture do double duty as a decorative piece to maximise storage

Before



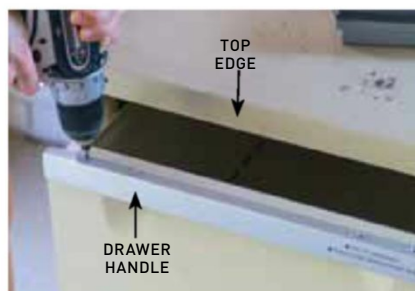
After

The refinished filing cabinet looks at home in the living room.



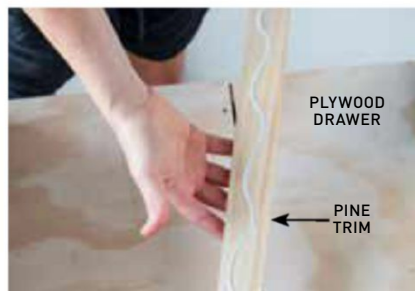
DESIGN TIP

Timber trim gives the cabinet front a new profile, but for a pattern paint a stencilled design or for texture, use a special-effect paint.



1 Cut the plywood

Remove any hardware from the filing cabinet, such as the lock and drawer handles. Measure and cut plywood to fit the front top edge and base, and cut pieces to cover each drawer face. Sand the front and sides of each plywood piece using 120 grit paper.



3 Add the trim

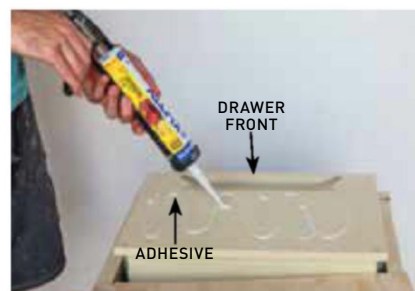
Measure and cut pine to fit around the edges of the drawer fronts. Lightly sand the timber with 120 grit paper to smooth the edges. Apply adhesive to the back of the trim and press firmly into position on the drawer fronts. Allow to dry overnight.



5 Paint the cabinet

Using a spray gun or a small foam roller, apply two coats of paint to the cabinet, leaving it to dry for at least 1-2 hours in between and for at least four hours after the second coat.

TIP The paint used for this cabinet was Reckless Green by British Paints.



2 Secure the plywood

Lay the cabinet on its back, position the plywood pieces on the drawers and predrill the ply and drawers at all four corners. Apply adhesive to the cabinet drawers and the top edge and base. Attach the plywood pieces to the cabinet, using screws on the drawers.



4 Prep the metal

Brush the cabinet to remove any dust. Use a paintbrush to apply an even coat of a surface preparation product to the metal on the top and sides of the cabinet, wiping off the excess with a lint-free cloth after five minutes. Allow to dry for at least 90 minutes.



6 Attach the handles

Measure and calculate the position for the handles on each drawer front and mark the hole locations. Secure a new decorative handle to each drawer front using screws and a drill.

TIP To make it mobile, attach castors to the base after painting. ➤

What you need

1200 x 596 x 7mm plywood
Two 40 x 8mm x 1.2m lengths of pine
120 grit sandpaper
Self-tapping countersunk sheet metal screws
High-strength adhesive
Surface preparation primer
Sample paint pot
Two drawer handles



What you need

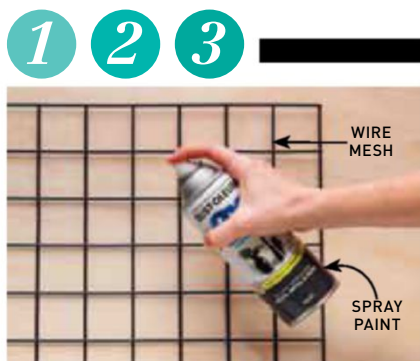
600 x 900 x 50mm wire
mesh panel
Removable cable
organiser hooks
Black spray paint

MODERN MEMO BOARD

Gone are the days of hanging a tatty corkboard in the home office. The new trend in organisation is a wire mesh memo board that makes showing off your office supplies a work of art.

'Who wouldn't want to artfully display their musings and inspiration on one of these boards?' says Melissa.

It cost her under \$30 to create this display, as all you need to do is spray paint the wire and add hooks.



1 Prepare the panel

Lay the wire mesh on a flat surface, protecting the surrounding area from overspray. Using even strokes, spray the wire mesh in black paint and allow it to dry for about an hour. Turn the panel over and spray the other side, allowing it to dry completely.



2 Paint the hooks

Spray two cable organiser hooks, including the adhesive tab, with the black paint, making sure you get into all the nooks and crannies. Allow to dry completely. Position the mesh panel on the wall and mark the hook locations at the top.



3 Hang the board

Secure each hook to the wall, wait the time specified on the packet, hang the wire panel and close the hooks. Attach papers, pictures, and decorative items to the memo board with clips.

TIP Ensure the hooks are rated to take the weight of the accessorised board. 🍋



MELISSA'S PICKS



Zinsser Smart Prime Water Based Primer, about \$42 for 946ml. rustoleum.co.nz



Wagner W550 Fine Spray Paint Sprayer, \$142. wagneraustralia.com.au



Selley's Allfix, about \$13 for 390g. selleys.co.nz



Flood ESP Easy Surface Prep, \$18 for 500ml, from Bunnings.



Rust-Oleum 2X Ultra Cover Paint + Primer in Flat Black, \$13 for 340g.



Haydn Fine Steel Wool, \$13 for an eight-pack. haydn.co.nz



Raven Hearth Brush, \$7. raven.co.nz

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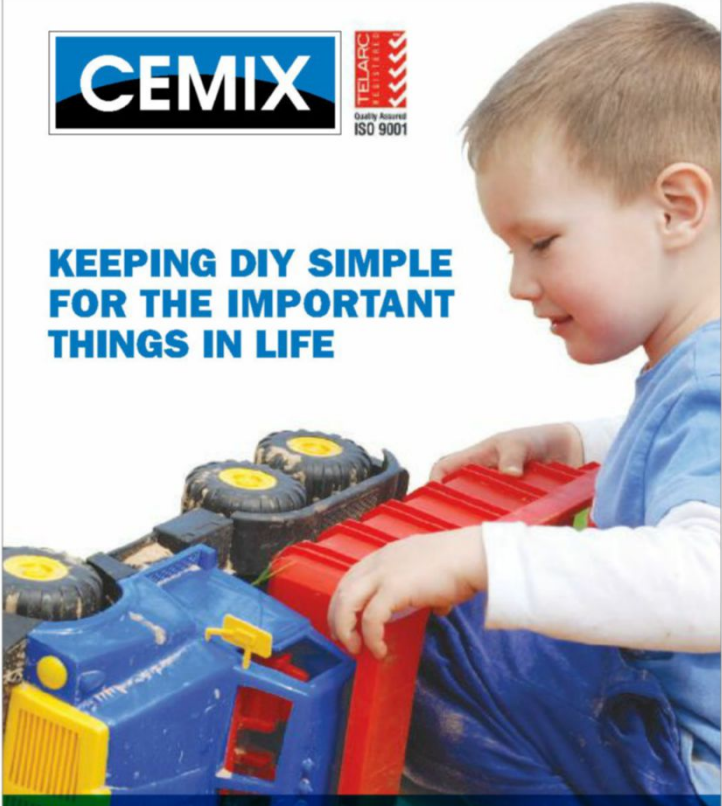
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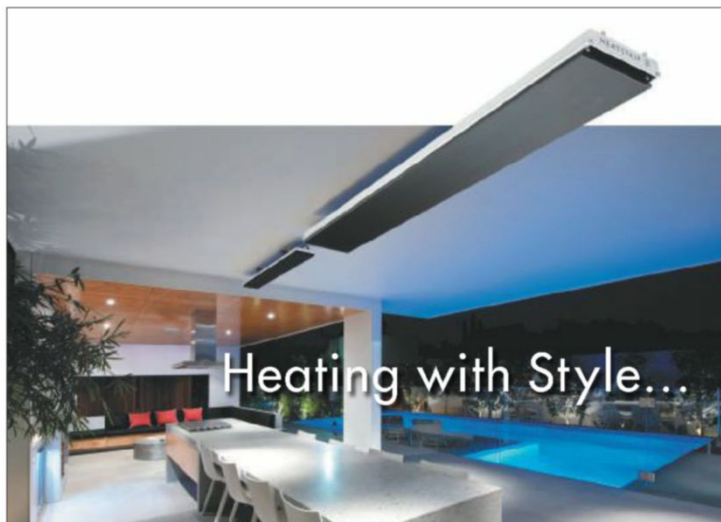
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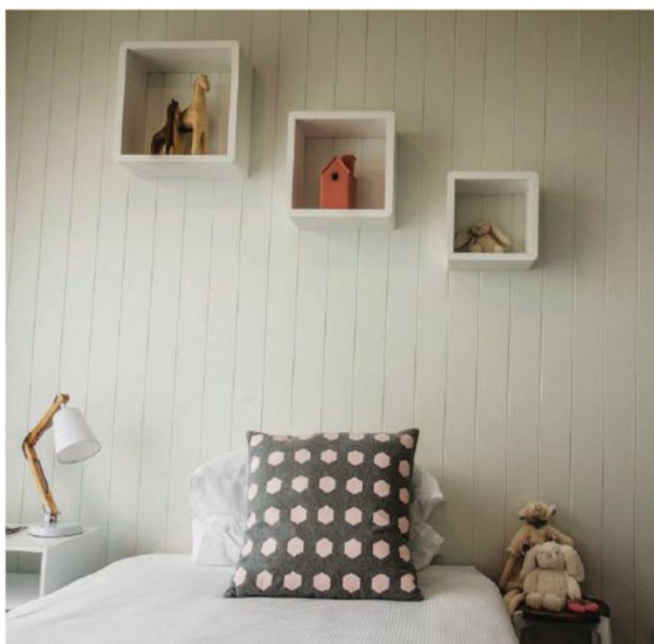
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Raising irresistible **ROSES**

Plant and prune these favourites
right for a fabulous display each year

WORDS CHERYL MADDOCKS

Their superb colour range, flower form and gorgeous fragrance make roses a must-have for many gardeners.

Winter is the time to prune and plant them, but don't be daunted by the prospect of pruning.

Even if you do make a mistake, you're not likely to seriously injure the plant, as roses are tough and hard to kill. The worst outcome will be a reduction in the number of flowers.

Why you prune

As roses flower on new wood, pruning is essential to reinvigorate the plants to produce a new harvest of blooms.

Pruning keeps your rosebushes healthy because it removes any diseased or pest-infected parts and encourages new, vigorous growth.

Roses need pruning twice a year, with a hard pruning in winter and a lighter prune in late summer.

Once you make a start and know when and how to prune, you will soon become an expert.



To renew a neglected rose, prune it hard in spring, then water and fertilise it

WHEN TO PRUNE



Tool up

Good, sharp secateurs and a pruning saw are essential.

A plastic bin to pop the prunings in as you go is also helpful.

To help prevent transferring disease, disinfect tools with Dettol or bleach between each pruning.

Wear long gloves and a thick, long-sleeved shirt for protection.



Hybrid Tea



Banksia



David Austin

A rosebush should be left until it is about three years old before being given a major winter pruning.

Younger bushes will still be establishing, and should only be trimmed back lightly in winter.

✦ **REPEAT-FLOWERING SHRUBS** such as Hybrid Teas, Floribundas, Hybrid Musks, Bourbons and David Austins

should be given their main pruning in June or July in temperate climates and during August in cold climates.

✦ **SPECIES ROSES** that bloom only in spring and once-flowering climbers, such as Banksias, are pruned in spring after flowering, not during winter.

✦ **REPEAT-FLOWERING CLIMBERS** are pruned during winter. ➤

Winter pruning

For winter pruning shrub roses, half the plant's growth has to be cut off, including dead and old wood.

TIP Old wood has dull-grey rough bark while young and productive wood has smooth red-green bark.



1 Cut off the dead wood

Remove the dead wood with secateurs, then cut back any old, unproductive wood to a strong young branch or, if there isn't one, to the bud union. Remove branches crowding healthy ones and any short or twiggy growth.



2 Prune remaining growth

Cut back the remaining growth by a third to a half. Make the cut about 5mm above a growth bud, angling the cut so it slopes back and away from the bud. Select buds that point away from the centre to avoid overcrowding.

Pruning climbers

SPECIES ROSES Some climbing roses flower only once in spring and need to be pruned after flowering.

✦ **REMOVE** any dead or diseased wood on the rosebush.

✦ **CUT** back one or two of the oldest canes entirely or to a point where a strong new cane is appearing and remove any twiggy growth.

REPEAT-FLOWERING ROSES In winter, prune repeat-flowering climbers.

✦ **CUT** the old and worn-out wood back to a strong young cane.

✦ **REMOVE** the thin tips of new canes and shorten the strong laterals that bore last year's flowers.

✦ **TRAIN** the canes of climbers to grow horizontally to encourage flowers along the whole length of the stem.

PEST TIP

A sprinkle of sulphate of potash around roses helps them to naturally defend against fungal attack by thickening the cell walls of foliage.

Summer pruning

The summer pruning of shrub roses is not as severe as in winter and is carried out after the flowering has finished.

It encourages new growth and an autumn flush of flowers.

✦ **REMOVE** about one-third of the growth just above a bud.

✦ **FERTILISE** and reapply mulch around the rosebush if necessary.

The right cut

The general idea when pruning a rose is to make the cut just above a bud. The buds on a rose stem are the little bumps from which new shoots emerge.



Climbing roses in the garden provide perfume at nose level.



Discard all rose clippings and leaves after pruning to stop the spread of fungal disease



Water shoots

Don't remove the red new shoots, or water shoots, that start from the crown and soar to the top in one flush of growth. They make up the new framework and need to mature before being cut.

Once the shoot has stopped growing, remove the tip to encourage flowers up the stem.

Don't confuse water shoots with suckers from the understock, which should be removed.

Suckers appear below the graft, where the bush has been grafted onto the understock. ➤

Plant a rose

Buy bare-rooted roses in winter when they are dormant and wrapped in plastic or hessian. Shake the roots free of the packing material, then soak in water with a seaweed solution.

❶ **DIG** a planting hole about 500mm wide, or wider for large plants, and deep enough so the bud union will be 25-50mm above the level of the soil.

❷ **MAKE** a mound of soil in the centre and position the rose on top. Backfill with soil, making sure the bud union remains at the right height.

❸ **FIRM** the soil around the rose with your hands. Water in using at least a full 9L watering can. Add more soil if needed and mulch with lucerne hay, keeping it away from the stem.



Wait for new growth to appear before fertilising a newly planted rose.



Transplanting roses

Winter is a good time to transplant a rosebush growing in the wrong position.

➕ **DRIVE** a spade as deep as you can into the soil, about 350mm from the stem. Work around the rosebush until it lifts easily.

➕ **CUT** the branches back by about two-thirds, then replant. Water in with a seaweed solution, then water regularly in the first season until it re-establishes.

GOOD COMPANIONS

Garlic, onion chives and society garlic (*Tulbaghia*) make good companions for roses.

To attract beneficial insects to the garden, plant sweet Alice, dill, coriander, gypsophila and lavender around your roses.

Society garlic



Gypsophila



Sweet Alice



Help them thrive

Roses may look delicate, but they are tough plants if given the right care.

➤ **POSITION** in a spot that receives at least six hours of sun a day, with protection from strong winds. Don't plant too close to trees, as the roots will compete for water and nutrients.

➤ **PREPARE** the soil well beforehand by digging in well-rotted compost or cow manure to the existing soil.

➤ **WATER** a newly planted rose every 3-4 days for the first 2-3 weeks to help the feeder roots become established.

Winter roses look like dead sticks, so it may appear as though they're inactive under the soil. But keep the soil moist but not soggy and, once

established, give deep weekly soakings instead of frequent light sprinklings.

Water at ground level or, if watering from overhead, do so early morning to let the foliage dry out and reduce the risk of fungal disease.

➤ **FEED** after winter pruning with a layer of cow manure around the base of the plant. As spring approaches, feed with a complete rose or citrus fertiliser, then every 6-8 weeks in the growing season.

Or, in spring, use a six-month controlled-release fertiliser and sprinkle with pelletised poultry manure after each flush of blooms.

➤ **DEADHEAD** spent flowers.



Add mulch

To keep the roots cool and moist, encourage earthworm activity and suppress weeds, add mulch to roses in beds and pots. It can also help reduce the spread of diseases.

Apply a 50mm layer of lucerne hay, pea straw or sugar cane when planting, keeping it away from the stem. Top up midsummer if necessary. ☼

GROW TIP

Spray your rosebushes with lime sulphur after they've had their winter pruning to help control diseases such as black spot.

CHERYL'S PICKS



Yates Advanced Rose Gun, \$13 for 750ml.
yates.co.nz



Yates Thrive Granular Rose Food, \$19 for 5kg.



Daltons Premium Rose & Flower Fertiliser, about \$13 for 1.5kg.
daltons.co.nz



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GROWING ORCHIDS

Follow a few basic rules and these fascinating plants will flourish

WORDS CHERYL MADDOCKS

The exotic-looking flowers of orchids are considered to be the most evocative in the world. This could be why so many people become obsessed with them and turn into avid collectors.

Not only are orchids exceptionally beautiful, these ancient plants are also very tough. After all, they have outlived dinosaurs and cleverly

managed to adapt to almost every environment on earth.

Worldwide there are thousands and thousands of species. Australia has about 1300, and the majority of these are not found anywhere else.

While some orchids do require specialist care, *Cymbidium* and *Phalaenopsis* hybrids are renowned for being easy to look after.



GROW TIP

When a cymbidium orchid produces lush green leaves but no flowers, it's a sign that it isn't receiving sufficient light.



Cymbidium

At this time of year, cymbidiums put on a great show, with colours ranging from white and pink to tones of orange, red, brown, yellow, cream and green.

➤ **POSITION** They like lots of light but need protection from the hot summer sun and frost. A position in filtered light under deciduous trees is ideal, or a covered north-facing verandah.

➤ **PLANT** Cymbidiums are epiphytes and grow naturally on rocks or trees, not in soil, so use an orchid potting mix, as good drainage is essential.

➤ **FEED** To produce flowers the next year, feeding is essential. Fertilise in spring with Yates Dynamic Lifter and use a liquid plant food for orchids fortnightly in summer and autumn.

Or you can apply a six-month controlled-release fertiliser in spring and early autumn.

➤ **WATER** Cymbidiums are fairly drought-proof, but they won't flower or perform well if allowed to dry out for long periods. During the summer, water them every second day and once a week during winter.

The cut blooms of cymbidiums will last for 2-4 weeks.



Indoors or out?

While cymbidium orchids are not indoor plants, they can be brought inside once in flower, then put outside as soon as the flowers have finished.

Or better still, cut off the flowerheads after about a month indoors, put them in a vase, then take the plant outdoors. ➤

RE-POTTING AND DIVIDING

Most cymbidiums flower better when pot-bound, but after a few years, they can stop flowering and also multiply.

If this occurs, the outer bulbs will be pushing against the side of the pot, which will contain many bulbs without any leaves, called back bulbs.

The best time to re-pot or divide is straight after the flowering season.

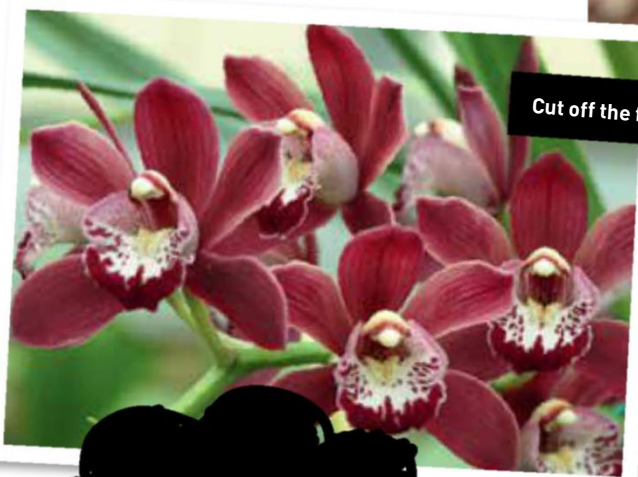
1 REMOVE the orchid from the pot and cut off any dead brown roots from the middle of the rootball. Divide the rootball with secateurs so each division contains 3-4 green bulbs. Remove any back bulbs with a quick twist.

2 RE-POT in the same container or a larger one if needed, using a specially formulated orchid potting mix. Leave a 25mm gap between the edge of the rootball and the edge of the pot.

3 FILL around the divisions with the mix and water in. Keep in a cool, shady spot for a week, then return to the main growing area.



Cut off the flower spikes at the base when the blooms have finished.



PROBLEM SOLVERS

Snails and slugs

- **SPOT IT** These pests can hide under the rims of pots during the day and munch on the flower buds overnight.
- **FIX IT** Make sure you check the pots regularly, or use snail bait.



Mealy bugs

- **SPOT IT** Found in the roots and leaves of moth orchids, the small bodies of mealy bugs are covered with a white, powdery wax.
- **FIX IT** Use a spraying oil.



Orchid scale

- **SPOT IT** Often mistaken for mealy bugs, scale can first appear around the sheathing leaves at the base.
- **FIX IT** Use a spraying oil and give the plants free air circulation.





Avoid putting moth orchids in direct sunlight as the leaves will burn.

Phalaenopsis

Commonly called moth orchids, these are one of the best types for growing indoors. Their long-lasting large blooms come in a range of colours, including white, pink and bicolours.

➤ **POSITION** Give them a spot near a window, but with no direct sun.

➤ **PLANT** Use sphagnum moss or an orchid potting mix.

➤ **FEED** Use a specialised orchid food or a food formulated for African violets. Feed monthly in winter and fortnightly in summer.

➤ **WATER** Moth orchids are more likely to die from overwatering than underwatering. Water thoroughly and wait until the mix is nearly dry. Avoid getting water in the crown of the plant.

Twice a week in summer and once a week in winter should suffice.

➤ **HUMIDITY** They love humidity, so put the pot on a saucer of gravel and water, so it sits above the water.

Grouping the plants together and mist-spraying them will also help to provide a humid atmosphere.



Did you know?

Moth orchids are epiphytic, so aerial roots will grow out of the pot. This is natural activity, as the orchid uses these roots to grip trees or shrubs.

Aerial roots also help with photosynthesis and they absorb moisture from the air.

Keep them blooming

Don't give up on your moth orchid when it's finished flowering, as you can encourage it to bloom again if you cut back the stem.

➤ **CUT** the flower spike halfway down the stem just above one of the nodes using secateurs.

➤ **SEAL** the cut on the stem using cinnamon powder to prevent a bacterial infection.

If the stem turns brown, remove it at the base. New flowers should appear in 3-4 months. ➤



Caterpillars

➤ **SPOT IT** The larvae will chew on the flower buds.

➤ **FIX IT** Spray regularly using Yates Mavrik or sprinkle with Derris Dust.



To stay looking good, moth orchids need re-potting regularly.



CHERYL'S PICKS

CHANGING THE MEDIUM

Moth orchids need regular re-potting to keep them flowering and healthy. Most are potted in sphagnum moss, but you can use an orchid potting mix.

The potting mix will last about two years, but if the plant is growing in sphagnum moss, it will need re-potting every year.

Once mature, you can use the same pot, as these orchids like their roots slightly pot-bound.



Daltons Premium Orchid Mix, about \$8 for 15L.
daltons.co.nz



Yates Mavrik Insect & Mite Spray, \$19 for 200ml.

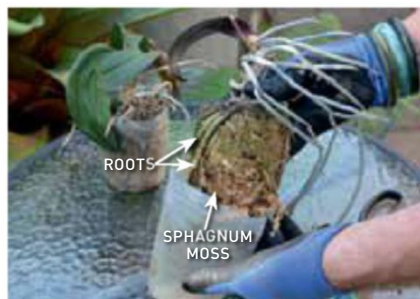


Yates Conqueror Spraying Oil, about \$10 for 200ml.
yates.co.nz



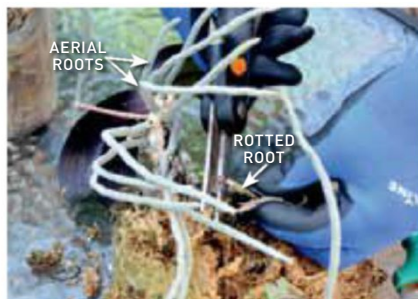
Yates Thrive Orchid Liquid Plant Food Concentrate, \$15 for 500ml.

1 2 3



1 Remove the plant

Take the orchid out of its pot and carefully remove the old sphagnum moss or potting mix from around the roots, making sure you don't damage any healthy roots. Don't remove or break any of the aerial roots.



2 Trim the roots

Cut off any roots that are brown, mushy and shrivelled using secateurs. If a lot have rotted and need removing, re-pot some of the aerial roots or let them grow out of the pot, as they will absorb moisture from the air.



3 Add a new medium

Put a handful of sphagnum moss or orchid mix in the base of the pot, then gently spread the remaining roots on top. Pack the growing medium lightly around the roots so the base leaf of the plant is just above the medium. 🌱



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Retro Vegie patch

Old-school celeriac, parsnips, swedes and turnips are making a kitchen and garden comeback

GROW TIP

To get a head start on your vegie patch, you can grow all these root vegetables from seedlings instead of sowing the seeds.

Instead of just growing run of the mill garden vegies such as potatoes and carrots, think about branching out and including a few old-fashioned root vegetables, such as celeriac, swedes, turnips and parsnips.

They're full of flavour, easy to grow and have lots of health benefits.

Celeriac can be used raw in salads, parsnips are great roasted or mashed, and turnips and swedes are a delicious addition to soups and stews.



CELERIAC

Also known as turnip-rooted celery, celeriac develops a root that looks like a fattened, knobbly turnip and grows to 50cm high, with foliage similar to a short bunch of celery.

The young leaves can be used as a celery substitute in cooking while the root can be peeled, then grated and used raw in salads, or cut up and added to soups and stews.

Celeriac has a subtle celery-like flavour with nutty overtones.



Health benefits

In ancient times, celeriac and its seeds were used in remedies for colds, flu, digestive complaints and water retention. Today, research suggests it has stomach-soothing properties.

It contains polysaccharides, which have been shown to keep the lining of the stomach healthy and may even reduce the risk of stomach cancer.

This vegie may also help with weight loss, as a cup of cooked celeriac has just 175 kilojoules, or 42 calories, and 2g fibre.

Buying & storing

Look for celeriac that is a good weight for its size and has no blemishes or soft spots. Store it unwrapped in the fridge crisper for up to a week.

It is best used all at once, as celeriac discolours once it has been cut or the skin removed. It can be tossed in lemon juice to prevent this.



Troubleshooting

Snails and slugs can feast on the leafy above-ground growth, so check celeriac plants regularly for pests while they're growing.

HOW TO GROW

Celeriac is grown in the same way as celery. Make sure the garden bed is weed-free before sowing to allow the roots to develop properly and prevent root disturbance that may be caused by weeding.

Like all root vegetables, celeriac grows best in well-prepared friable soil with good drainage.

✦ **SOW** the seeds directly where the plants are to grow. Like celery, celeriac prefers a mild to cool climate, but it will grow well in warmer areas in late summer and autumn.

✦ **THIN** seedlings to 200mm apart and remove any side shoots as they grow.

✦ **HARVEST** the roots in 4-5 months when they are 50-75mm across. ➤

PARSNIP

This creamy white, carrot-like veggie is grown for its long white taproots, which have a sweet, nutty flavour.

Parsnips can be grown in all climate zones, but they are easiest to grow as a winter vegetable in cool or temperate areas, where frosts concentrate the sugars in the root.

They are a popular vegetable for roasting and mashing, and using in soups, stews or casseroles.



Buying & storing

Choose parsnips that have bright creamy skin with no brown areas. They won't have tops attached, but check the tips to make sure they look fresh and unwithered.

Keep unwrapped in the fridge crisper for up to five days. Parsnips can be cut, blanched and frozen.



Health benefits

The 17th century English herbalist Nicholas Culpeper recommended wild parsnips to expel 'the wind from the stomach'.

This beneficial action on the intestines is due to the high fibre

content of parsnips, which also makes them a good weight-loss alternative to potatoes, as the fibre helps to fill you up.

Parsnips are a good source of vitamin C and folate, a B vitamin needed to create healthy cells.



HOW TO GROW

Make sure you obtain fresh parsnip seeds, as they lose viability rapidly, and soak them overnight before sowing to help germination.

Parsnips grow in almost any soil but do best in fertile soil with good drainage. Choose an open sunny spot.

In temperate areas, sow from late winter until autumn. In cooler zones, the time to sow is spring and summer.

✦ **SOW** the seeds thinly directly where the plants are to grow in rows 10-15mm deep and spaced 300-400mm apart.

Cover the seeds with soil or compost, press down firmly and water in gently. Keep the bed damp until the seedlings emerge, in about 3-4 weeks.

✦ **THIN** the seedlings to 100mm apart to allow for root development.

✦ **HARVEST** full-size parsnips after 4-5 months, loosening the roots with a garden fork before lifting.

When they are mature, the foliage dies back. Start pulling up parsnips early to spread the harvest, choosing the larger roots first.

They can be left in the ground over winter and harvested as needed.

✦
Milk, butter and nutmeg are the perfect flavour partners for sweet and creamy mashed parsnips

Troubleshooting

Late sowing may produce small roots, and the plants may run to seed prematurely.

Rotting parsnips are due to poor drainage and the roots can split as a result of inconsistent watering. Forked and hairy roots are caused by adding manures that have not been aged. ➤





These round root crops are both quick and easy to grow.

Swedes, also known as rutabagas, are a cross between a turnip and cabbage. They have sweet, juicy yellow to cream roots, milder in flavour than turnips, with purple skin on the top.

Eat the young roots raw, grated into a salad, and roast or puree the older roots for soups and stews.

Turnips are smaller than swedes and the top of the white roots can be white, yellow, green or purple.

When young, turnips are quite sweet. The roots are used in soups and stews and can be roasted or pickled. Use the young foliage as a leafy green and steam, braise or add raw to salads.

Health benefits

Research shows that turnips contain glucosinolates, which help the body neutralise and get rid of harmful toxins and hormones that could raise the risk of cancer.

A cup of cooked turnips provides a healthy dose of potassium and vitamin C, which help protect cells from damage and can boost immunity.

Swedes contain potassium and magnesium, which help maintain healthy blood pressure levels, as well as glucosinolates.



PICTURE (TOP) READER'S DIGEST (BOTTOM) ISTOCK



Sow a few seeds monthly for a constant supply, as turnips grow fast and are best picked young

Buying & storing

The roots of swedes should be plump, with smooth, unblemished skin.

Turnip tops should look fresh and reasonably unwilted with the leaves green not yellowed, and the skin smooth and almost pearly.

Store both in loosely sealed plastic bags in the fridge crisper.

Keep swedes for up to a week and turnips for two days only.



Troubleshooting

Snails and slugs hide in the foliage and are the main pest problem for swedes and turnips. Others are grey cabbage aphids and cabbage moth caterpillars.

Certain soil-borne diseases can affect these root vegies, but good crop rotation practices should prevent them.

HOW TO GROW

Turnips and swedes do best in loam but will grow in most well-drained soils in an open sunny position.

➤ **SOW** the seeds thinly 10-20mm deep, directly into rows.

For a winter harvest, sow in late summer and autumn. In cooler climates, they can also be sown in late winter and early spring.

➤ **THIN** turnip seedlings 75-100mm apart and swedes to 150-200mm.

➤ **HARVEST** turnips after 1-2 months, not allowing them to become any bigger than a tennis ball.

For swedes, the roots are ready to lift after 3-6 months.

Use a garden fork to lift them carefully and avoid root damage.

Keep the ground well watered or they may become stringy.

In cold climates both can be stored in the ground over winter. ➤



RECIPES

Roast potatoes & root vegies

Ingredients

4 baking (floury) potatoes, such as King Edward, or all-purpose potatoes, such as pontiac or desiree
 3 carrots
 3 parsnips
 3 small swedes or turnips
 3 beetroot
 Olive oil, for drizzling
 Salt and freshly ground black pepper

1 PREHEAT the oven to 210°C. Wash and scrub all the vegetables, then pat dry with paper towel. Peel the potatoes and cut in half. Top and tail the carrots and parsnips, then peel and halve lengthways. Peel the swedes or turnips and quarter. Leave the beetroot whole, with the skin on.

2 PUT all the vegetables in a large roasting pan, drizzle generously with olive oil and season well.

3 ROAST for 30 minutes, then turn all the vegetables over and roast for a further 15 minutes or until golden and tender. Serve hot.

Serves 6

Pear and parsnip soup

Heat 2 tablespoons olive oil in a large saucepan. Add 1 finely sliced leek (white part only) and fry for 5 minutes or until soft. Add 800g peeled and chopped parsnips, then cover and simmer for 5 minutes.

Add 4 cups water or salt-reduced chicken or vegetable stock, reduce the heat and simmer for 10 minutes or until the parsnips are softened. Stir in 3 peeled, cored and diced pears.

Puree the soup using a food processor or stick blender, then bring to the boil. Serve immediately, topped with natural yoghurt, parsley leaves and freshly ground black pepper.

Serves 4

Celeriac remoulade

Cut the skin off 1 celeriac (500g). Cut into matchsticks, put in a large bowl and toss in the juice of ½ a lemon.

In a bowl, combine 5 tablespoons mayonnaise, 2 tablespoons crème fraîche or sour cream, 1 tablespoon Dijon mustard, 2 tablespoons finely

chopped parsley and 1 tablespoon finely chopped mint.

Season with salt and freshly ground black pepper, then fold into the celeriac. Thin the sauce with extra lemon juice if too thick. Set aside for 30 minutes for the flavours to develop.

Serves 4



CUTTING CELERIAC

Use a sharp knife to top and tail the celeriac and remove the skin, slicing the root end off first to provide a steady base. 🍴



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3



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5



POP QUIZ!

Name these *animals*

Everyone is familiar with kiwi and tui, but can you identify these more unusual animals endemic in New Zealand? The answers are at the bottom of the page.

8



7



PICTURES (ISTOCK (BACKGROUND) THINKSTOCK

ANSWERS 1 TUI 2 KAKA 3 CHATHAM ISLANDS BLACK ROBIN 4 KIWI 5 GREEN GECKO 6 TUATARA 7 OTAGO SKINK 8 ARCHIE'S FROG

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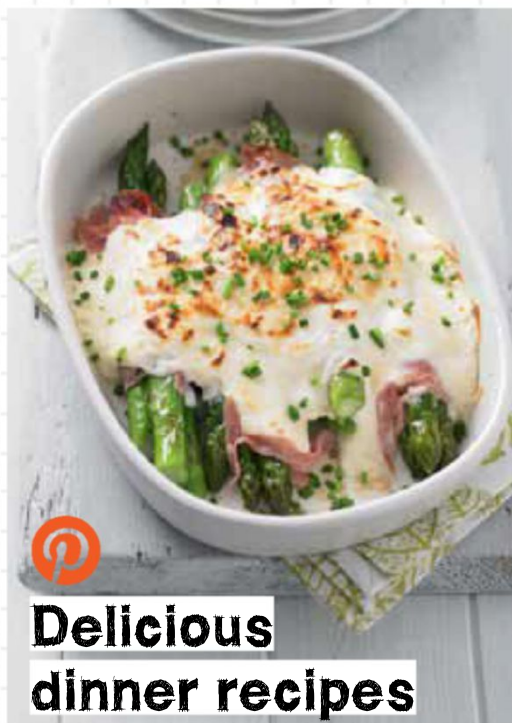
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