

Home-Dzine^{online}

IDEAS AND INSPIRATION FOR YOUR HOME

June 2013

Craft • DIY • Food • Green • Home Decor & Design



a word or two



Apologies for the mini issue this month. Have been sooo busy doing projects for other publications, getting ready for Grand Designs Live and running workshops that time slipped away from me. Will definitely make it up in a future issue!

Janice

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DIY KITS

Home-Dzine are proud to introduce a totally new concept to the South African DIY enthusiast. We now offer a range of kits that include all the element essential for assembling your own furniture. All you have to do is finish it off to match your own decor style.



[CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFORMATION](#)

Golden TOUCH

decor and design

INTERIOR ILLUSIONS

We've all seen rustic tables made from tree stumps, but these tables are definitely not your usual stumps. Painted in Rust-Oleum Universal metallic - pure gold, now you can repurpose to add a touch of glitz to a living space.

Here's how:

After cleaning and sanding the tops of your tree stumps, apply a coat or two of Rust-Oleum flat primer before spraying on pure gold spray.

Remember to let each coat dry before applying the next coat, and only apply light, even coats to prevent runs.

Rust-Oleum Universal Metallic also comes in Titanium Silver, Oil-Rubbed Bronze and Aged Copper.



LEFT & NEXT PAGE: This large log table base forms part of the Phillips Collection by designer Jason Phillips.

Here's how:

Get friendly with a local tree-felling company and you can pick up a tree stump for a bargain price.

Then all you have to do is prime and paint with Rust-Oleum Universal metallics in pure gold.



Recently featured on the Home-Dzine website, we looked at creating a space for fine dining at home. An easy way to add elegance to any dining space is to combine neutral colours and incorporate a touch of gold (or silver).

Mirror and pictures frames are an obvious starting point for spraying gold or gilding with faux gold foil, as a standing and table lamps.

But adding a touch of gold is not limited to a dining room alone. Any room in a home can be given a dose of glamour with a touch of gold.



Dress up an entrance or hallway by adding gold leaf to a cabinet front, or highlight a picture frame with gold.

If you visit the Home-Dzine website we show you how easy it is to make your own picture frame and then all you need is a can of gold spray paint or gold leaf.

Gold adds a touch of warmth to any home.



LEFT: This white, gold and black dining room shows how easy it is to decorate a dining room without it being brassy and overdone.

A practical coir or sisal rug ground all the elements together.



Gold leaf can transform everyday furniture into wonderful statement pieces. Dutch gold leaf is not as expensive as gold leaf, but looks just as good.

Create the look



Get this look on a budget by using clay-fibre plant pots. Use construction adhesive to glue the base of the planters together and then prime and paint in your choice of colour.

For thousands of years, gold has been a symbol of luxury and wealth. Our own country was established through our large resources of gold.

Gold cards, gold medals and gold jewellery are all considered a sign of prosperity and achievement.

So why not add a touch of gold to your home?



The trick to using gold in any home is to do it with style. The last thing you want to do is have too much gold, which ends up looking tacky and tasteless.

Picture frames, lamps and wall decor are a few elements that always look good when dressed in gold.

ABOVE and LEFT: Combine medium-gauge wire and recycled foil containers to make this simple yet eye-catching wall decor.

Cut leaf shapes out of the foil containers and attach to the wire with 5-minute epoxy glue. When happy with the layout, spray with Rust-Oleum Universal metallic - pure gold.





Use spray paint to update an old steel or wrought iron table, or add a touch of glamour and glitz to a bamboo table.

Here's how:

If the metal needs attention, use Rust-Oleum Rust Stripper to remove traces of rust and then lightly sand with fine steel wool.

Prime sanded metal before painting and then spray on light, even coats of **Rust-Oleum Universal** in your choice of metallic finish.



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RUST-OLEUM

To find more inspiration, visit www.rustoleum.com.

diy project



Metallic foil wrapping papers offer a simple and affordable way to add the lustrous look of metal to any paintable surface. The foil offers a great way to update any piece, whether you want to cover the entire surface or just accent a few select portions. And you can use metallic foil to upcycle and old piece of furniture for your home.

1



Whatever piece you need to cover should be sanded before you apply foil

- If varnished or painted, give a light sanding with 120- and then 240-grit sandpaper.
- Melamine or laminate can be sanded with 180-grit to de-gloss the finish.

Use a lint-free cloth and mineral turpentine to wipe the finish and remove all traces of dust.

Using masking tape to mask off any areas not being painted.

Apply one coat of Plascon Sure Coat matt acrylic in black, dark brown or your choice of deep colour. The colour should be darker than that of the foil you are using.

2



Roll on the size

When the base coat is dry, you can apply the water-based size.

You can purchase size, which is a special glue for foils, at most craft and hobby stores. It costs around R60

Size goes on milky but dries clear in 15 to 30 minutes. It remains tacky even when dry, which lets the foil transfer from its backing to the surface of your project.

It's best to use a foam roller to apply the size and because it's water-based, you can wash the roller in warm, soapy water to clean afterwards.



3



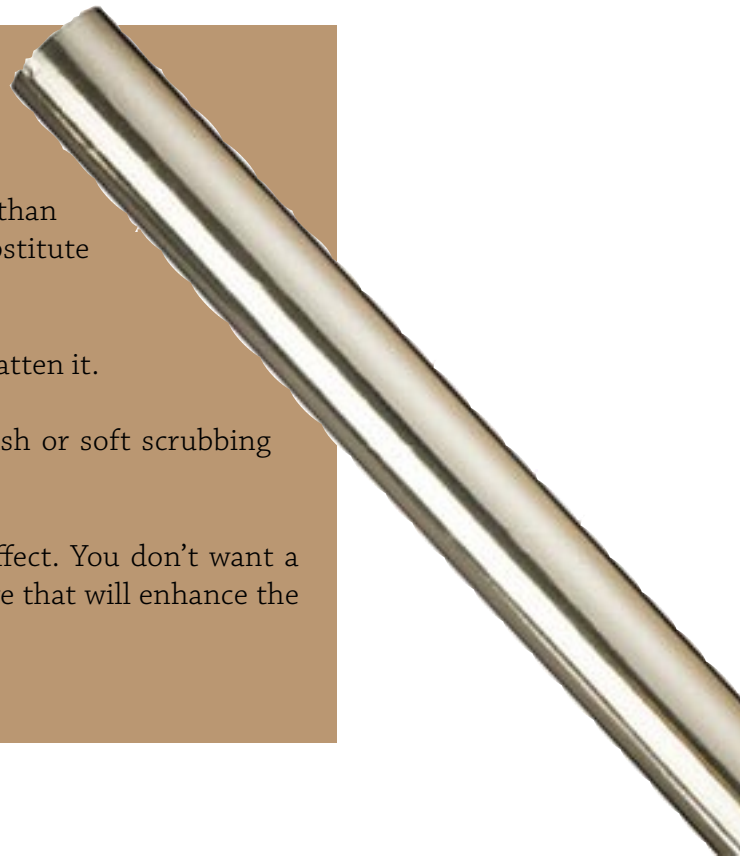
Time to apply the metallic foil

We're using metallic foil because it is much cheaper than gilding foil, and far easier to find. You could also substitute with aluminium cooking foil for this project.

Crumple up a sheet of foil into a loose ball and then flatten it.

Lightly rub the surface of the foil with a stippler brush or soft scrubbing brush to transfer the foil.

Vary your strokes and pressure to create a random effect. You don't want a completely flat finish, but rather creases here and there that will enhance the finished effect.



4



Apply the vintage effect

You could choose to leave it as is, or add a vintage effect for a more stand out effect.

Roll on a coat of acrylic paint that's had 50 percent scumble glaze added. The scumble glaze will increase the translucency and extend the drying time.

After application, gently wipe off the paint with a soft cloth. What remains will add warmth to the finish and give it a vintage look.







For the recent Grand Designs Live expo, Dremel asked me to put together an artwork that encompassed this year's slogan of "City Living", as well as using a selection of Dremel Tools.

Having already experimented with projects using aluminium roofing tape (as shown in last month's issue and on the Home-Dzine website), I thought about creating a Joburg skyline that would shine!

The result came out far better than I expected and you can use the same technique to create your own skyline project - or any other image that you want to use.

It's an inexpensive project to do; the entire project was done on 9mm SupaWood cut to the size of 1500 x 600mm and framed with 9mm SupaWood that is glued and stapled together. After mounting the lights, the back was covered with 3mm masonite stapled in place.



You can buy Aluminium roofing tape at Builders Warehouse and it costs around R80 per large roll.



To create the raised design I used my Dremel Hobby Glue Gun and some glue sticks. It's important to use a glue gun with temperature control, so you can apply a controlled amount of glue.

1. Before you begin, switch on the glue gun - low heat - and let it warm up.
2. Start by drawing your design onto the board. It doesn't need to be perfect - you just need an outline to follow when applying the glue.

GOOD TO KNOW

I know there are going to be some of you who are thinking that you aren't artistic enough to make your own art - rubbish. The Internet provides plenty of ideas and inspiration and all you have to do is make a few changes here and there to make it your own.

3. Outline all the edges on your design with a thin bead of glue. If you do accidentally apply a big splodge, use a toothpick to smooth out before the glue has chance to dry.

GOOD TO KNOW

Start at the top or one side of the design, so that you don't have to worry about hot glue.

4. Complete all the outlines and let this dry before randomly filling in. Using the glue gun in a side-to-side motion, apply glue to give your design detail.
5. Now it's time to apply the aluminium tape. Cut lengths of tape that are slightly longer than the width of the project. You will need a craft knife to make it easy to peel off the backing of the self-adhesive aluminium foil tape.
6. Starting at one side, lay the tape over the design and press down as you go. Don't worry about creases just yet, the Dremel MultiTool will take care of these and you need some creases for effect.



7. I used my Dremel 3000 and the extension cable fitted with a felt polishing point to go over the foil.

Set at a medium speed and gently rub over the entire surface.

As you work you will see that almost all the creases are smoothed out and the raised areas become more defined.

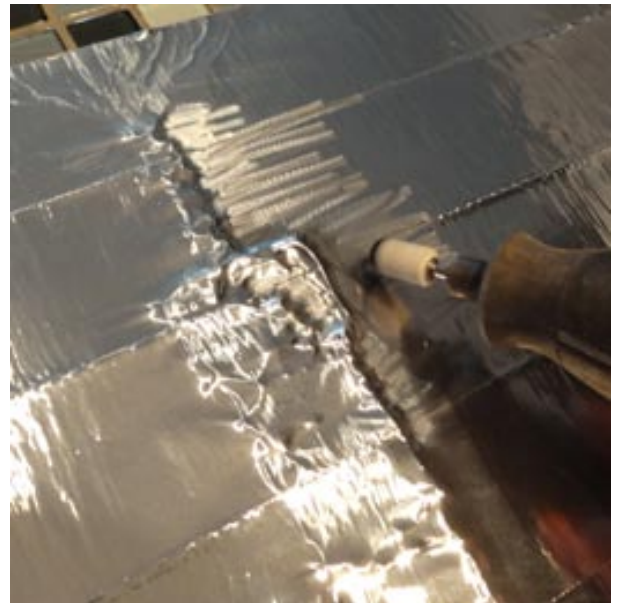
8. I added the LED fairy lights purely for effect at the show, but once switched on I must say they add a nice finishing touch.

Use a 6mm drill bit to drill holes from the front to the back and then pop in the LEDs, securing with a blob of hot glue.

9. The frame consists of strips of 9mm SupaWood, 5cm wide and trimmed to fit around the frame.

I stuck the down around the board and at the corners with No More Nails, then added a couple of staples for added strength. You could also use small panel pins.

Staple or pin on a backing board, hang on the wall, switch on and enjoy!



You will find everything you need for this project at your local Builders Warehouse. When looking for the aluminium roofing tape - it should be in the same place as duct tape and masking tape.



You can use gold, silver or pewter leaf, foil or Rust-Oleum Universal metallics to update just about any item in the home.

Repurposing dated or boring lamps is an easy way to introduce a touch of glamour to a home.

Plastic, brass, ceramic and even glass can quickly be given a new, modern look.

Upcycle a dated lamp



Items need to be cleaned before spraying. I like to use Polycell Liquid Sugar Soap.

Give the surface a light sanding with 180-grit sandpaper and wipe clean.

Only spray on light coats at a time and allow drying time between coats. A maximum of two coats is normally sufficient.

Add glamour to a plain white tea or coffee set

Use Rust-Oleum Universal metallic in plain gold to add elegance to a plain white tea or coffee set. The finished item will be hand washable.

Make sure the item is clean and dry before spraying on a light, even coat of paint.

Let this dry before applying a second coat.



PRUDENT BABY



If the size is too liquid the gold leaf will have a mushy look when it is applied. If the size is too dry the leaf will not adhere properly.



HOW TO APPLY SIZE & GOLD LEAF

Step 1

The surface must be free of dust and oil. If the surface is smooth and glassy, lightly sand with 180-grit sandpaper to assist with bonding.

Step 2

To test if the gold size is ready for the leaf, a light touch with a knuckle works well. Generally knuckles have less oil and dirt on them compared to finger tips.

One should feel a slight tug from the gold size.

Step 3

Lifting a piece or sheet of gold leaf on to the prepared surface can be done using the static charge in a paintbrush.

Tweezers can also be used. For small, postage stamp size pieces of leaf I use a brush, and for large, full size sheets of gold leaf I find two pairs of tweezers gives the most control.

Try to work in a space that has no air draughts as the lightest breeze will send your gold leaf flying.

Step 4

I use a soft artist's paintbrush to press the leaf gently onto the surface.

The gold leaf is not cut to shape first - a larger than necessary piece of leaf is simply brought to the gold size and pressed down. The gold leaf is so thin that overlaps of more than one layer will not be visible.

Step 5

A gentle brushing with pieces of gold leaf that have been picked up by the brush or tweezers will make sure that all of the pattern painted with the gold size will be covered.

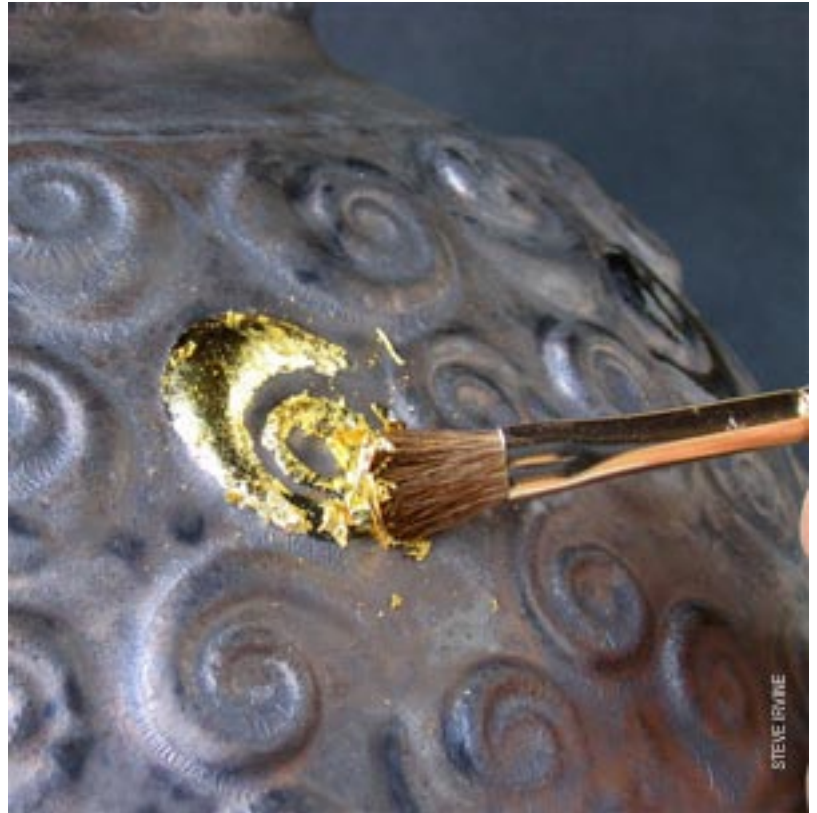
Step 6

About a day after the gold leaf has been applied the size will have fully hardened, and the gold can be burnished with a cotton ball, or piece of velvet.

There are sometimes little flakes of gold on the surface from the application process, and the burnishing will smooth them into the applied gold. A light burnishing really brings out the lustre of the gold leaf.

Step 7

Since gold leaf is so incredibly thin, its colour will sometimes be affected by the colour of the surface underneath. To get a pure gold colour it is sometimes necessary to apply two or three separate applications of the leaf.



The gold leaf will only adhere to the gold size pattern that has been painted on, and will fall away from the unpainted areas.



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glorious gardening





Winter is the perfect time for making changes to your outdoors and getting it ready for the spring and summer months. Creating a built-in seating area is one addition that can completely alter the look and atmosphere of your garden, as well enhancing your outdoor enjoyment.

In this feature we take a look at two makeovers that incorporate built-in seating areas. Both makeovers have brick-built seating, either plastered or clad in rock, as well as a firepit.

What's nice about both these options is that they can be tackled as do-it-yourself projects over a couple of weekends.

No special tools or skills required - other than some basic bricklaying savvy, and most of this information you will find on **Home-Dzine**, or the Internet, and basic construction tools such as a trowel, hawk board, wood float and a brick hammer or angle grinder. You can even make the job easier by hiring a cement mixer for the day when it comes to applying the plaster finish!



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HOME IMPROVEMENT A TO Z



I never use the garden - I want to make use of my outdoor space!

Before this garden makeover the space was defined by a poorly placed outdoor kitchen, a grass area bordered by over grown tropical plants and a dull patio with an old teak table set. To some, this scenario might sound all too familiar.

In all honesty the homeowners did use this grass area for a number of years. It was a great place for little kids to run and play. But as their household grew up and moved out - the grass was no longer useful.

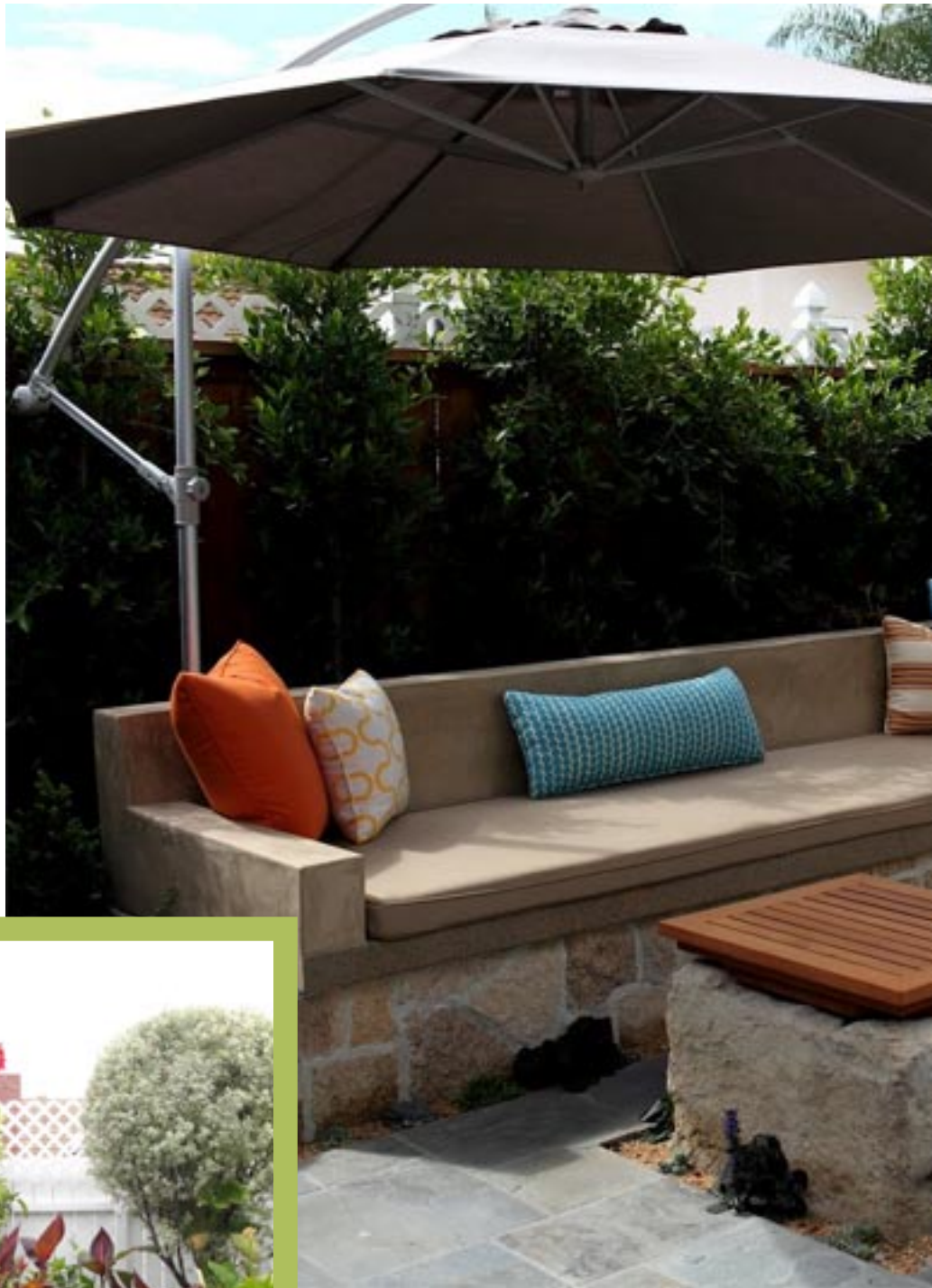
The new entertainment area feeds directly off the family's living space. A large sliding French door was installed to help create a generous flow to this inviting space that can hold up to 6-8 people around the fire.

Although simple in its layout, this outdoor remodel adds valuable space to the home.

The existing garden comprised borders that were overflowing, but the space wasn't being used to its full potential. The homeowner wanted the garden to become a destination for friends and family to gather and relax.

With some creative imagination the original space was designed as a space where friends could sit and enjoy.

The gravel base was replaced with flagstones and a rustic firepit incorporated into a built-in seating area with cushions and pillows that make the built-in seat so inviting!



BEFORE: This backyard had been very well loved over the years. The homeowner, an avid gardener, had invested many happy hours in the space but wanted to create an entertaining area.



CREATE THE LOOK

- Build a basic structure using cement or clay stock bricks and add a layer of natural stone or faux rock cladding.
- Natural stone tiles can be set to create upright in a concrete base for the firepit.
- Top off the seating area with scaffolding planks or reclaimed timber.

ABOVE: The firepit was built out of a reclaimed limestone trough.

RIGHT: A bedding area was allowed for around the base of the built-in seating and firepit to allow for planting small groundcover and interesting plants.









<http://www.gardenstudiodesign.com/>







Building a brick or casting a concrete entertainment area is one of the most affordable ways to add a seating area to a garden, with the exception of PVC garden furniture of course.

You only need a basic knowledge of bricklaying to set down a secure concrete footing and build up layers of brick to a pre-determined height. And bricks are still one of the most affordable building materials you can use.

The design above shows a simple corner arrangement, complete with firepit, that is achieved by building up courses or layers one on top of the other.

Once the structure is complete you are ready to add your seat cushions and decorative cushions to complete the seating area.

This type of seating structure means that you never have to worry about buying or maintaining garden furniture, and changing the look is as simple as recovering seat cushions and pillows.



Building brick seating for your garden is a reasonably simple task that can be accomplished over a few weekends during the winter.

All you need to start is a firm base or to lay down a concrete slab.

My entertainment area - shown left - consists of an open brickwork frame topped off with marine plywood tops that can be removed to allow storage inside the frame.

Brush up on your building skills and get stuck in this winter. You'll find plenty of tips on the **Home-Dzine** website.

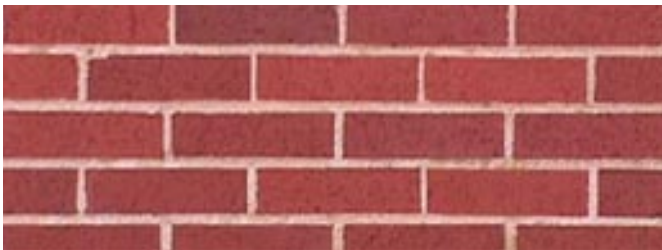


Bricklaying projects can be very rewarding and add value to your home. Empower yourself with basic bricklaying skills and build your own brick structures.

Basic bricklaying is probably one of the most rewarding tasks to learn. It allows you to build a wide variety of projects in and around the home. When wanting to take on any building project that involves basic bricklaying, first acquaint yourself with a few simple methods and techniques.

Brick patterns

The most popular method for laying bricks is to use a straight bond. Bricks are staggered to increase overall strength. To lay this arrangement the first row starts with a complete brick - the second row starts with half a brick.



Foundations

Unless you are building on an existing concrete slab, foundations or footings are needed to ensure strength and stability.

For built-in seating foundations 300mm deep x 200mm wide is sufficient to build on.

cement	concrete sand	stone
		
1 bag	1 wheelbarrow	1 wheelbarrow



BRICKLAYING TOOLS

**plastering
trowel**



**pointing
trowel**

brick jointer

**builders line
and stakes**



stiff brush



**hawk board for
plastering**



wood float



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SEND IMAGES AND DETAILS TO: home-dzine@iburst.co.za



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