

# Add interest to your garden using stencils

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Use stencils to add interest to boring sheds or provide the feeling of depth in a newly planted border while you are waiting for the plants to establish.



By applying two shades of green you can create the illusion of depth and texture to a perennial border less than an hour old.

Stencils are easy to use, read this guide and have a go!

## Tip:

You will need to allow plenty of time for the paint to dry before changing colours and applying new masks over painted areas

-choose a nice sunny day for this job!

## Materials



## You will need:

- stencils
- paint
- an old cloth
- roller
- stencil brush
- masking tape
- ruler or straight length of wood
- spirit level
- PVA glue if painting on old brick walls

## Step 1 Prepare surface



Thoroughly clean the surface and allow to dry. If stencilling on a dusty surface such as an old brick wall, paint with PVA glue to seal the surface and allow to dry.

## Step 2 Set level



Using a ruler draw a horizontal line at the bottom of where the

design is to be placed, to help keep things level. Use a spirit level if required.

### Step 3 Secure mask



Secure the stencil with masking tape.

### Step 4 Apply paint



Load the roller with paint and remove excess.



Use rollers to cover large areas of colour.



Use stencil brushes to paint in smaller areas, using a dabbing motion.

### Step 5 Add more colours



Leave the stencil mask in position until all the areas are painted and dry. When applying different colours, wait until one colour is dry before applying another one to prevent colours from running into each other.



If your stencil comes in more than one part, apply new parts only when the previous stencilling is dry.



To create sharper outlines or remove excess of paint around the edges use a clean cotton wool bud.



few different designs simultaneously.

Et voila! A plain, uninviting shed transformed!

*Written by V.O.*



Since the paint takes a while to dry, work on a

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