

decorating
REMODELING

PREMIERE ISSUE

Weekend DECORATOR

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Step-by-Step

112

**PROJECTS
FOR
BEAUTIFUL
ROOMS**

**New Window
Treatments**

**Wallpaper
Tricks**

**Slipcovers
in a Day**

**WIN A
HOME OFFICE**

See page 18

21
**DESIGNER
EXCLUSIVES**
On Your
Budget



103

ADD A MEDALLION TO A CHAIR

Level of Difficulty:

Easy

Materials: Chair; rag; round medallion, photocopied and enlarged to appropriate size (photocopy onto heaviest paper possible so design will be easy to work with); sponge; 1- or 2-inch foam brush; clear craft glue; ½ pint orange shellac; 2-inch china bristle brush.



Step 1 Wipe the back of the chair clean. Place the medallion face down on a work surface and moisten lightly with a damp sponge. Gently brush on a thin layer of glue and press the medallion onto the back of the chair. Smooth out any air bubbles with the damp sponge, being careful to thoroughly wipe any glue that oozes out the edge. Let dry completely.

Step 2 Using the bristle brush, give the back of the chair three coats of shellac, letting the chair dry completely after each coat.

104

MAKE A FAUX-CHINOISE CHEST

Level of Difficulty:

Moderate

Materials: Unfinished chest or cabinet; 1 pint acrylic sealer/primer; three 3-inch foam brushes; 1 pint flat black latex paint or artist's acrylic paint; scissors; 3 chinoiserie images, photocopied and enlarged to fit chest (ours were two birds and a pagoda by a bridge); sponge; clear craft glue; 1- or 2-inch foam brush; silver paint pen; 4 ounces red oxide artist's acrylic paint; 1 pint orange shellac; 3-inch china bristle brush; #000 or #0000 steel wool; furniture wax (optional).

Step 1 Using a foam brush, completely paint the unfinished chest with the paint primer to seal. When the primer coat is completely dry, use a foam brush to give the chest two coats of flat black latex, drying thoroughly after each coat.

Step 2 Cut out the photocopied images. Do not attempt to cut out the fine detailing of the birds' long tail and the lines under the pagoda because they are too thin and would tear in the gluing process; plan to add the detailing later with the silver paint pen. Lay the images face down on a work surface and lightly moisten the backs of the images with a damp sponge. Brush a thin coat of glue on the images and position them carefully on the chest. Smooth them into place with the damp sponge, being careful to wipe away any excess glue that squeezes out from the edges because the finishing shellac will not adhere to glue. Let images dry completely.



Step 3 Use the silver paint pen to add tails and other fine detail lines to the glued images. A silver paint pen is preferable to a gold one simply because when shellacked the silver becomes a bright gold; the gold paint would turn a brownish color.

Step 4 Once you have used the paint pen to add details to the birds and the pagoda, use the paint pen to outline the front of the chest ½ inch from the edge of all four sides. Let the silver paint details dry completely.

Step 5 Paint the top of the chest with the red acrylic using a 3-inch foam brush and let the paint dry.

Step 6 Give the entire chest three coats of orange shellac. After each of the first two coats have dried, lightly sand the chest with steel wool for an extra-smooth finish. For extra patina on the finished chest, and after the final coat of shellac has completely dried, give the finished chest one coat of furniture wax.

Step-by-Step Instructions

DECOUPE PAGES 116-117

105

MAKE A CHINESE NEWSPRINT BOX

Level of Difficulty:

Easy

Materials: Cigar box with sliding lid; 1/2 pint clear shellac; 2-inch china bristle brush; single sheet of Chinese or other newspaper; clear craft glue; 1- or 2-inch foam brush; single-edge razor or X-Acto knife.

Step 1 Prepare a clean, protected work surface to work on your project. Remove the lid and turn the

Step 4 Brush some glue on the outside of the two short sides and wrap up the newspaper to cover the box. Again, let the glue dry completely, and trim the paper even with the top and edges of the box.

Step 5 Brush some glue on the top of the lid, lay the other half-piece of newsprint over that and smooth out. When the glue is completely dry, trim off the edges of the paper and reposition the top onto the box.

106

CREATE A STAMP FRAME

Level of Difficulty:

Easy

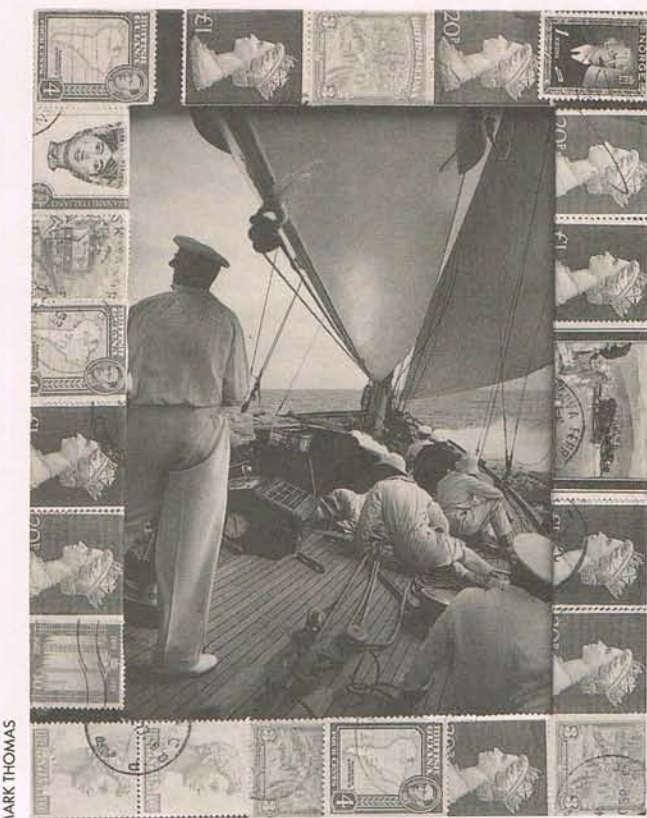
Materials: Small ready-made wood or plastic frame with a flat surface; 1/2 pint clear shellac and 2-inch china bristle brush (if using wood frame); 1- or 2-inch foam brush; clear craft glue; assorted canceled stamps; single-edge razor or X-Acto knife; 2 ounces flat black artist's acrylic paint; two 1-inch foam brushes; 1/2 pint clear acrylic varnish.

Step 1 If using a wood frame, use a bristle brush to seal it with one coat of clear shellac and let it dry.

Step 2 Using the foam brush, spread a layer of clear craft glue along one edge of the frame. Randomly lay out the stamps to cover the glue.

When overlapping stamps, apply glue to the back of the top stamp before pressing it onto the frame. Continue to work around the frame with the glue and the stamps. Let the glue dry thoroughly and then trim off the edges.

Step 3 Paint the inner and outer edge of the frame with black acrylic. Seal the frame and the stamps with clear



MARK THOMAS

acrylic varnish. Let the varnish dry thoroughly.

107

ADD DECALS TO A TRAY

Level of Difficulty:

Easy

Materials: 200-grit wet/dry sandpaper; metal tray; rag; white spray primer; sponge; 1 tube dark green artist's acrylic paint; 1 tube off-white artist's acrylic paint; clear acrylic coating; 1 1/2- to 2-inch natural bristle paintbrush; white glue; paper cutouts; tissue paper; scissors.

Step 1 Lightly sand tray; wipe clean. Spray with primer and let dry 45 minutes to an hour.

Step 2 Tear off a 3-inch piece of the sponge and dip into green paint that has been thinned with water to the consistency of light

cream. Dab the sponge gently on the tray to make an overall pattern. Let dry.

Step 3 Add some off-white acrylic to the green to make a medium shade. Sponge it on and let it dry thoroughly. Add more off-white for an even lighter green. With a crumpled piece of tissue paper, dab on another coat and let dry.

Step 4 Thin some white glue with a little water and brush it onto the backs of the cutouts. Press cutouts into place on tray. Let the glue dry completely.

Step 5 Using clear acrylic, cover the entire surface of the tray with at least one coat and let dry.

Step 6 Add water to the off-white acrylic paint and mix to a skim-milk consistency. Brush this paint mixture over the whole tray several times, letting each coat dry completely (drying time will be about three hours).

GARY DENYS



cigar box upside down on the work surface. Give the outside of the box and the top of the lid one coat of clear shellac to seal the wood.

Step 2 Thin the glue with a little water so that it can be easily spread with a brush. Brush a thin coat of glue on the bottom of the box.

Position the box in the middle of a half-sheet of newsprint and press down. Let the glue dry thoroughly.

Step 3 Brush some glue on the outside of the two long sides of the box and fold up the paper, smoothing it out with your fingers. Be careful to use gentle strokes when smoothing out the surface, or the newsprint ink will smear. Let the glue dry, and trim the paper from the long sides even with the top and the sides of the box.

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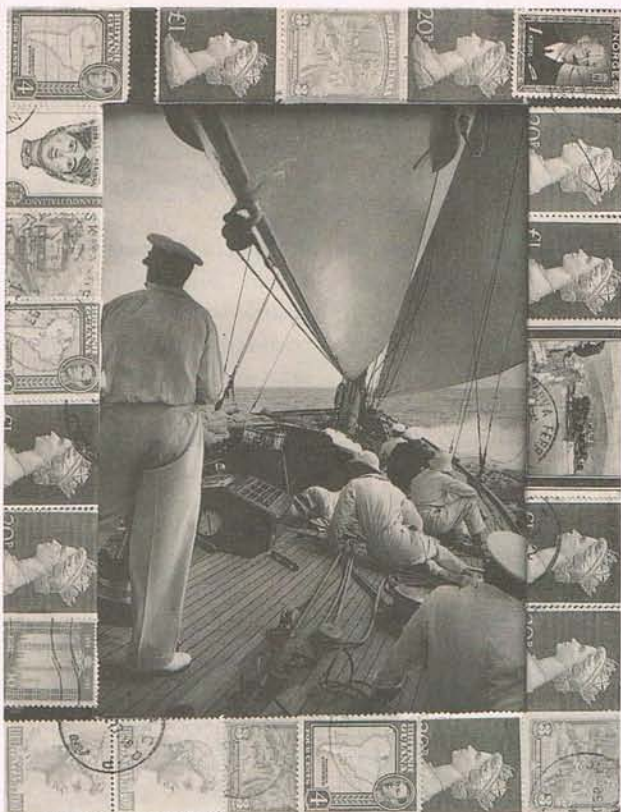
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