



Create Fabulous Flower Pots out of old plastic containers.

Designed by
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This is such an exciting project and I enjoy creating these flower pots so much. Above are pictures of the materials I have used for the texture. Being a craftsperson of many years I have accumulated quite a stash of little wooden shapes. I have also used lolly sticks and matchsticks. Info on the little balls is on page 3. Non woven and gauze swabs are super absorbent and readily available to order on the internet.



The wood adhesive pictured here is ideal for outdoor and indoor use. I colour the adhesive (which dries clear) with black colour pigment. Having a black background makes it so much easier to create depth when adding colour later. Also it is easy to spot patches you may have missed! The outdoor Filler is also idea for indoor or outdoor use.



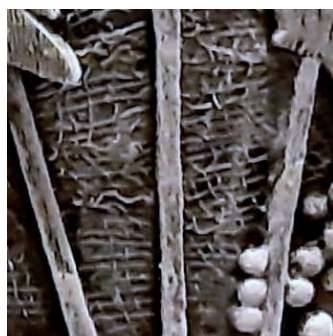
1. I turned the pot upside down, then applied the adhesive mixed with black colour pigment. I used a stiff paintbrush. 2. Next I lay a sheet of the non woven swabs over the top and using more adhesive I secured the edges around the top. This prevents it slipping when securing the rest of the sheet. 3. Using the whole swab I secured it to the pot. Then I allowed it to dry. I usually work on a few pots at the same time because they first all need to dry before proceeding on to the next stage.



4. Once the base had dried I painted around half of the rim then placed another sheet of the non woven swabs over it leaving a little to overlap at the top. 5. Once the sheet was secured to the pot I folded over the top and secured that to the inside of the pot. 6. You may be wondering why the adhesive looks so dark on these photos? Well silly me, put too much of the colour pigment into the mixture!



7. I covered 3 pots halfway around then let them dry. 8. Once they had dried I applied another sheet without having to get my hands dirty. 9. Next I used the Gauze swabs because they create fab texture. Also they are super absorbent and easy to apply. They can also be stretched which creates more texture.



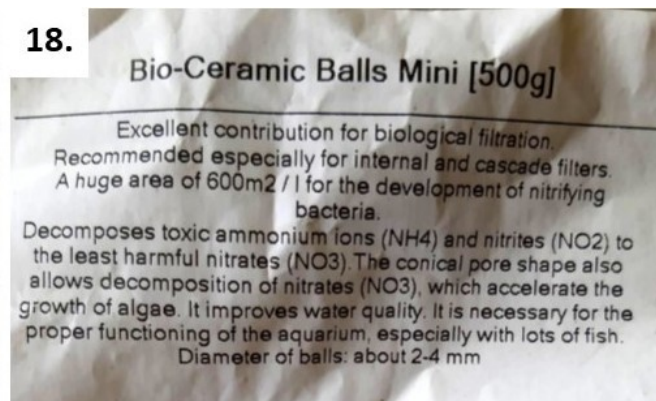
Texture samples from the Gauze Swabs.



10. I applied the gauze to the base first. **11.** Instead of just smoothing it down I created little ridges by pushing the material around with the paintbrush. **12.** As with the non woven swab I left a little at the edge to be folded inside. **13.** When the base of the pot had dried I tucked the bits inside that were overlapping.



14. and **15.** Now to the decoration. I applied some adhesive to the pot then added a bit of lolly stick and matchsticks all the way around. **16.** Next came the little owls and birds. It did look messy at this point but I knew when dry it would look completely different.



17. Now for the little balls. In photo **16.** it shows where I added some extra adhesive in readiness to apply the little balls. **18.** Shows you what they are. Readily available on the internet. **19.** Balls applied.



20. I created a paste. First of all I mixed some colour with the adhesive. **21.** I mixed it in thoroughly. **22.** I then added some of the filler, a little at a time until I had a nice thick paste.

24.



25.



26.



24. and 25. By now the base had dried and I could lift the pot up to decorate the rim. Using a knife or similar tool I applied a thick layer to the rim. 26. Once it had formed a skin I created texture by squeezing it and poking it. By the way I love this bit. The more texture the better it will look when painted.

27.



28.



29.



27. The pot I worked on during these instructions is the one at the top. The one beneath was created earlier and left monochrome. (Only dry brushed with white.) 28. Dry brushing: I applied white acrylic to the brush then removed nearly all of it on a kitchen towel. It is important not to have too much white paint or you will just paint the pot white. 29. You should be aiming at only hitting the top surface as you brush over it lightly. As if by magic all the wonderful texture will begin to appear.

30.



31.



32.



30. After dry brushing with white I did the same with light blue to create a sky. 31. I then added green and white. 32. I applied more white paint to the feathers and little balls and painted the owls brown.



33.

33. So here we have the finished pots. One just dry brushed with white and the other I applied colour.

You can add all sorts instead of the items I have suggested. Bits of lace or maybe some broken bits of jewellery. I think the little owls came from a Hobbycraft store or The Works. The beautiful feathers came from www.hobbilicious.com they also have many fabulous MDF shapes for you to use.

Experiment and Enjoy. I do!



Lollypop Sticks And Dragonfly Pots

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I love this design. It is so simple yet effective. You will need to follow the instructions for the owl pot until you have covered the pot with the swabs.

It wasn't until I began adding the lolly sticks on the coloured pot that I realised I had forgotten to add the gauze for extra strength and texture.

This time you will need lolly sticks and string, also a dragonfly or other MDF shape.



Cover the pot with a layer of the adhesive. Add the lolly sticks. They were too long for my pot so I snapped them in different lengths. Cover the lolly sticks with another layer of adhesive then add a length of string.



Add a coat of adhesive to the string then add your dragonfly or other shape and allow the pot to dry completely. The first pot above has the gauze as a second layer and I dry brushed it with white. As I mentioned I forgot to add a layer of gauze to the second pot. I dry brushed it with white first, then added colour.

I have painted many items in my garden with acrylics and after years of rain, frost and sunshine they still look the same.