

TRASH TO treasure



Nothing lasts forever. We live in a world of constant change. Before you simply replace old items in your home, consider breathing new life into them. 'Second chances' take time and effort, but are incredibly rewarding and good for the environment! Our DIY expert, Almie Louis, shows us how.



Wire-mesh look-like dome

Recycled items:
Old fish net tights/stockings
Cast away lid
Cylinder type glass vase (cracked or broken)
Also needed:
Fabric glue
Small paint brush
Scissors
Binder clips
Glass glue (available at leading hardware stores)
Damp cloth
PVA bond glue

Method:
1. If the jar is broken you have to fix the pieces together with proper glass glue that you can get from any hardware store.
2. Allow it to dry. When completely dry, use the damp cloth to remove any marks.

3. Push the vase into the stocking until it fits snugly. Pull the stocking tightly over the mouth of the vase and tie with binder clips.
4. Paint fabric glue around the rim of the vase on top of the stocking with a paintbrush. Press the stocking firmly against the glass. Leave for about 12 hours to dry.
5. Cut away any excess stocking.
6. Turn the vase upside down and paint some bond glue along the rim of the cast away lid and glue it to the outer top of the newly made dome for a handle.

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Map cake stand

Recycled items:
Cracked cake stand
Leftover wrapping paper
Also needed:
Sponge brush
Modge Podge
Pencil
Scissors
Craft knife
Water-based varnish

Method:
1. With a sponge brush, paint the front of the map-paper with a thin layer of Modge Podge and leave to dry.
2. Using the cake stand as a template, mark and cut out the desired

sections of the map-paper.
3. Paint the back of the picture with Modge Podge, then position the picture face-up on top of the cake stand.
4. Paint another coat of Modge Podge over the picture and remove any air bubbles by gently pushing down from the centre of the plate and out towards the edges with your fingertips.
5. Seal the edges with a final coat of Modge Podge, then leave to dry completely.
6. Use a craft knife to cut away any excess paper from the edges.
7. Seal it with a water based varnish.

Rope dome

Glass domes are very fragile and can easily crack if they bump against other objects. I have lost a couple until I discovered this rope idea. The rope will not only strengthen the dome, but will also give it a unique look.

Recycled items:
Cracked glass dome
Rope (any size)
Doorknob
Also needed:
Scissors
Paintbrush
Fabric glue
PVA bond glue

Method:
1. Start coiling the string around the dome from the bottom, applying fabric glue as you go.
2. Allow to dry.
3. Glue a doorknob at the top's centre with PVA bond glue.

Satin ivy leave ball

This vase cracked into two pieces, but I managed to mend it with porcelain glue and covered the crack with satin ivy leaves. My vase is not waterproof, but a decorative eye catcher.

Recycled items:
Ball vase
Satin leaves or flowers
Also needed:
Fabric glue
Small paintbrush
Porcelain or ceramic glue

Method:
1. Follow the manufacturer's instructions on how to use the glue to fix ceramics.
2. When your vase is fixed and dry, decide how you want to position over the fixed crack.
3. Use the paintbrush and paint the glue to the back of the leaves and paste the leaves onto the vase.
4. Carry on doing this until the whole crack is covered. Leave to dry.



Aniseed container

This vase is enormous, therefore used for impact decoration. Unfortunately, it lost its paint colour. My solution to this was to cover it with left-over wallpaper.

Recycled items:
Rectangular vase
Left over wallpaper
Also needed:
Wall paper glue
Scissors
Pencil
Brush

Method:
1. Using the vase as a template, mark and cut out the desired piece of wallpaper to cover the vertical sides of the vase.
2. Paint the back of the paper with wallpaper glue, then position the paper face-up around the vase.
3. Using your hands, remove any air bubbles by gently pushing from the centre of the vase and out towards the edges with your fingers.
4. Leave to dry.



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