

# REINDEER PICTURE FRAME

Make your own picture frames with regular tools and accompany it with a reindeer head silhouette.

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YOU CAN ACHIEVE GOOD RESULTS USING ORDINARY TOOLS. USE WOOD WITH A NATURAL PROFILE TO AVOID NEEDING A ROUTER.

## REINDEER PICTURE FRAME HOW TO...

### MATERIALS

- Reclaimed skirting boards/roof panels/floorboards  Wood filler
- White paint for woodwork
- Leftover MDF wood
- Thin dry tree branches (for antlers)
- Black acrylic paint
- PVA glue

### EQUIPMENT

- Hand saw
- Mitre box
- Staple gun
- Sponge brush
- An assistant (optional)
- Hand sander
- Old newspaper and tins for props
- Workbench with a clamp
- Jig saw fitted with a wood-cutting blade
- Pencil and paper for template
- Safety goggles
- Dust mask

♥ **STEP ONE** Determine your desired picture frame dimensions and, using a hand saw, cut the wood into four pieces, one for each side of the frame.

♥ **STEP TWO** With a mitre box and hand saw, cut the ends off each piece at a 45° angle. (Practise using a mitre box on some off-cuts before you proceed to the picture frame.) A mitre box allows you to hold the wood firmly and will guide the saw so that it cuts at the correct angle.

♥ **STEP THREE** Arrange the cut pieces flat on your work surface so they form the shape of the frame.

♥ **STEP FOUR** Hold the pieces in place while you staple the corner sections of the frame together – this is where an assistant is very useful. Turn the frame over and apply staples to the rear of the corners as well. Fill any gaps with wood filler and leave overnight to dry.

♥ **STEP FIVE** Once the frame is dry, smooth away any rough patches with a hand sander.

♥ **STEP SIX** Place the frame on the props on top of the newspaper and start to paint it white. You can do this roughly, there is no need for a perfect coat.

♥ **STEP SEVEN** Finally, attach a hanging device to the frame.

### REINDEER HEAD

♥ **STEP ONE** Use any type of wood, but I use 6mm-thick leftover MDF, which comes in 4mm, 6mm or 8mm thicknesses.

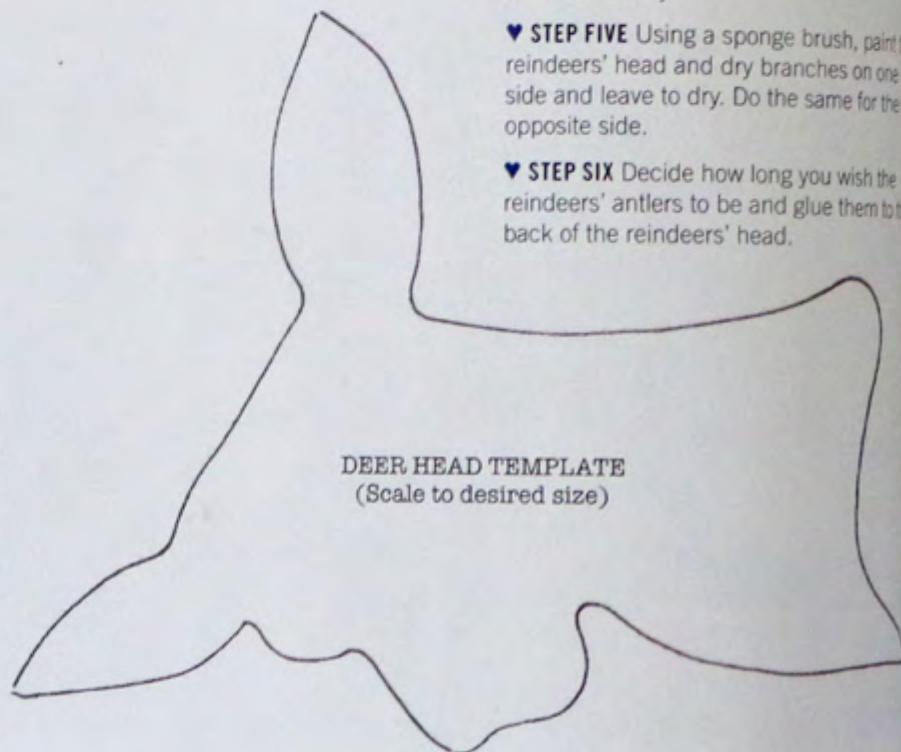
♥ **STEP TWO** Use the template (scaled to your desired size) and trace it onto the wood.

♥ **STEP THREE** Secure the piece of wood on the workbench with clamps. Use a jig saw and cut around the template lines.

♥ **STEP FOUR** Use the hand sander to get rid of any rough edges. Wipe with a damp cloth and allow to dry.

♥ **STEP FIVE** Using a sponge brush, paint the reindeers' head and dry branches on one side and leave to dry. Do the same for the opposite side.

♥ **STEP SIX** Decide how long you wish the reindeers' antlers to be and glue them to the back of the reindeers' head.



DEER HEAD TEMPLATE  
(Scale to desired size)

### SAFETY TIP

The most important thing to remember when using a jig saw is safety. As the blades move very rapidly, a serious cut can occur quickly, which means that you must plan ahead. Before you use a jig saw for the first time, practise on scrap wood. This will give you a feel for the way the tool cuts and moves. Always wear safety goggles and a dust mask. Work in a hazard-free area and on a work surface that needs to be solid and stable.

