



* What's great about this project is that it's temporary - the leaves will eventually break down and you can reclaim your glass tumblers to use as drinking glasses again.

leaf candle holder

MATERIALS

- + Leaves in various shapes and sizes
- + Small glass tumblers
- + Double-sided tape
- + Scissors
- + Twine or string
- + Tealight candles

1. Collect some leaves from the garden to use. You want leaves that are as tall as your glass and preferably thinner, so that they can wrap around the glass without breaking. Separate the leaves from the branches and sort into groups. We used three different sets of leaves - tall stems to use as a base, small long leaves and pretty seeded flowers as decoration.
2. Run a line of double-sided tape around the outside of glass about a third of the way down and just about the base of the glass.
3. Starting from one side, press the first base

- leaf onto the tape. Repeat with another leaf, overlapping the first. Continue all the way around the glass.
4. Take a length of twine or string that is at least twice as long as the diameter of the glass. Leaving around 5cm at the end, use your thumb to anchor the string and start to layer the decorative leaves upon the base row, using the string to anchor the new leaves. Continue around the glass until you are back at the start. Use a table to steady your hand.
 5. Tie off the twine (using the 5cm end you left in the previous step) and adjust any of the leaves that may have slipped in the process. Wrap the rest of the twine around the glass and tuck into the other row of twine.
 6. Place a tealight candle into each glass and light up to admire the pretty dappled light.
- Design, crafting & photography: Dani Altamura, highwallsblog.com.*





This green-thumb project is a great way to upcycle your child's tired old toys

dino planters

MATERIALS

- + Rubber dinosaur toys or figurines
- + Utility knife
- + Large sewing needle
- + Newspaper
- + Spray paint
- + Painter's tape
- + Small plants

1. Carefully cut a hole in the back of each figurine to pot the plant in. Decide which plant will go in which figurine, so that you can cut a smaller or bigger opening if need be.

2. Use a large sewing needle to poke some drainage holes into the underside of each figurine. Be careful! You can use your knife to cut some small holes or slits if the figure is too thick. Also take note of the shape of the figurine; if it slopes downward towards the tail, you may want to put the holes lower so that you don't have water pooling inside.

3. Give each figurine a wash to remove any excess dust and dirt, and then let dry completely.

4. Place figurines on the newspaper with enough distance apart to spray all sides of each.

5. Give the spray paint a good shake and apply thin even coats to each figure. Be patient with this stage. Leave each coat so it's at least touch dry in between painting. Your figurines will have lots of small, awkward parts to reach so you will need to do many coats from different angles before you have even coverage. Let them dry overnight before adding a second colour.

7. If you are adding a second colour, tape off the areas that you want to stay the first colour. It's important that your first colour is completely dry.

8. Using the same method as before, add thin coats of the second colour. You will need to do a few coats depending on your colour choices.

9. Once completely dry, remove the tape. If you have a sealer, you can apply a layer now.

10. Now you can pot your plants. Try to fill each figurine firmly with soil, otherwise your plants are going to sink once you water them.

11. Clean off any excess soil and water your plants and you're done! Place your new dino planters somewhere sunny and remember to water them according to what kind of plant you have chosen.

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