

Shell Seeker Shelf



Beachcombing inspired this little piece. I love wandering along the beach picking things up and bringing them home, only for them to sit and gather dust on the shelf!

What you need

Chipboard wardrobe or downloadable template, acrylic paints (blue and white), small flower stamp, shell stamps, shrink plastic pieces, 3D clear gloss finish.

This project uses the chipboard wardrobe with the doors cut off and the sides trimmed from 4.5cm to 3cm to give a thinner unit, which is more like a bookshelf and idea for small treasures.

I had a ball decorating this one as it was so simple but results in a lovely worn wood look. Blue acrylic paint was used and then a white paint wash over the top, which was lightly sanded. I then stamped a little flower in white ink very lightly on the top of the cupboard. You could stamp shells all around the edges too but I liked the basic finish and didn't want to over decorate it.

As well as my shells, I added some faux sea-glass tiles by stamping shell stamps (Judikins Shell Cube no. 1) onto clear shrink plastic and then dropping a few drops of alcohol inks onto the reverse of the tiles. I sanded the tiles a little to round the edges and give the impression that they had been bounced around by the sea.

This was such a lovely project to do and the result is really pretty. I had better come clean though and say that these lovely shells were not found on my local beach, where I am more likely to find heaps of seaweed and the occasional jellyfish!