



## How to...

### decorate a flower press



#### What will you need:

a DIY flower press

a set of acrylic paints

a set of paintbrushes

A paint mixing pot

Newspaper or a wax tablecloth

some leaves or flowers to print onto the press

or

some floral stencils





1



Start by preparing your workspace. Cover the table with a wax tablecloth or newspaper sheets.

Next either go to the garden or take a much needed walk and collect leaves and flowers with which you'd like to decorate your flower press.

I chose hellebores because the flowers are large and thick, aucuba leaves because of their serrated edges and a fern frond because I like them and have some growing in the garden. But the choice depends on what you can forage.

2



Cut the parts off the plants and flowers that would make them difficult to use as stencils, in this case, I cut off the seed pods of the hellebores.



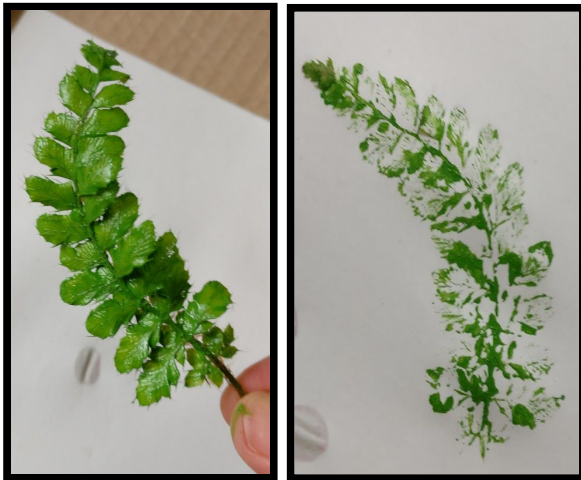
3



Take a piece of recycled paper and experiment with your leaves and flowers before decorating the flower press.

Press your flower gently down on the paper and then using your finger gently press the paint into the paper. You'll probably need to press each leaf or petal onto the paper.

4



Experiment with colours, see which leaves work well and which are difficult to print.

While experimenting you might discover as I did that it's quite hard to print a fern frond.

5



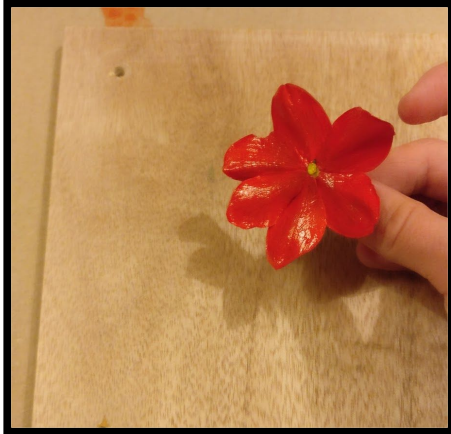
Think about what was hard to print and what was easy.

Choose your colours and patterns.

See if you can use only the paint, or if you need to water it down.



6



Once you've decided on your pattern and colours start decorating the top plywood of your flower press.

If you like you can also decorate the base.

7



Wait until the paint dries and then start using your flower press! Enjoy!