



TIME:
2-3 days
COST:
R800
DIFFICULTY:
Medium

ADD A COLOURFUL DIMENSION TO YOUR HOME

Chic panel SCREENS

Our DIY Divas show you how to make this beautiful Moroccan screen. It will add a touch of the orient to your home. Remember though, you don't have to do the design exactly the same; you can modify the design to suit your style. »

WORDS: JANICE ANDERSSON/DIY DIVAS

YOU WILL NEED:

- 16mm Supawood cut to 3 panels of 1600mm x 450mm
- [2] Work benches
- Clamps
- 180-grit sandpaper
- Thin masking tape
- Rust-Oleum 2X – flat black
- Rust-Oleum Polyurethane - gloss
- Rust-Oleum Metallic – copper
- Rust-Oleum Paint Pen – copper or Guilder's paste – copper
- Contact self-adhesive vinyl
- Craft knife and cutting mat
- Stencil
- Tape measure and pencil
- Wood filler
- Objects to use as templates
- 4 steel hinges and screws

TOOLS

- Jigsaw and clean-cut blade
- Drill/driver plus 10mm wood drill bit and PZ2 screwdriver bit
- Optional: Dremel Trio and routing bit

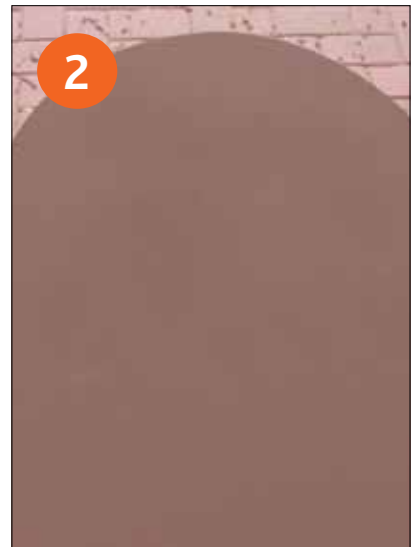
DIY PROJECT: MAKE



Start off by using a tape measure and pencil to mark off a grid design at the top of the frame. This will make it easy to transfer your design onto the board. To shape the bottom and top of the frame you can use trays, plates, saucers or cups. The designs that we used were printed off the Internet.

WHY MAKE PANEL SCREENS

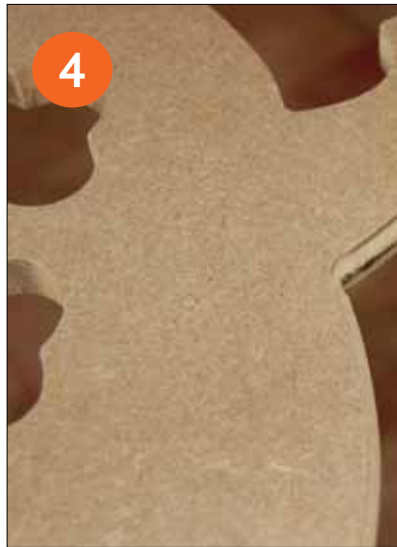
Not only do panels screens add a colourful dimension to your home, they are affordable and practical.



Use a jigsaw and clean-cut blade to shape the top and bottom of the frame. Lay the frame on two work benches with the top and bottom of the frame hanging over the edges. Clamp the frame securely to the benches.



Move the panel down so that the top is centred between the two work benches and clamp securely. Use a drill/driver and 10mm wood bit to drill out holes in the drawn designs. Insert the blade of the jigsaw into the holes to cut out the designs. Cut slowly and gently guide the jigsaw around curves.



Rout around the outside of the frame for a decorative finish. If you do not have a Dremel Trio or router you can leave out this step.

GOOD TO KNOW

The DIY Divas use Bosch power tools for their ergonomic and lightweight design plus the fact they are powerful enough to meet the requirements for any DIY task.



Supawood is very absorbent, especially at the cut edges. To reduce absorption it's a good idea to go over all the edges with a very thin layer of wood filler. Use your finger to apply around all the edges and where you have cut out the designs. Once dry, sand all the edges.

DIY TIP:
Sand all the edges with 180-grit sandpaper and wipe clean.



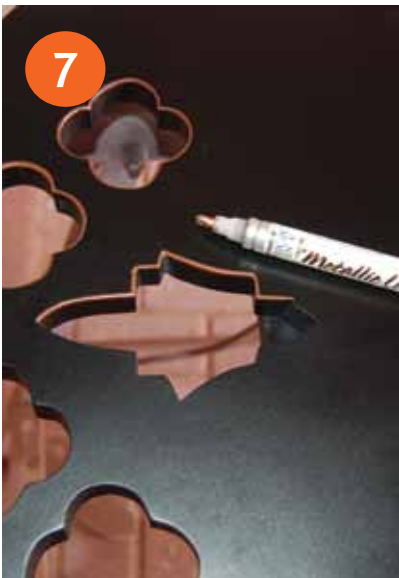
Work in a well-ventilated area when using spray paint and cover surrounding surfaces with a drop cloth or newspaper to protect from overspray. Shake the spray can well before starting and spray from a distance of 30cm to lightly cover the top and edges of each panel. Once dry apply a second coat. Repeat this for the other side of each frame.

PANEL DETAIL

For the main panel detail we used a tape measure and pencil to outline a panel and then masking tape to section off a strip approximately 5mm wide. Use the Rust-Oleum paint pen to fill in this detail. Allow to dry before removing the masking tape.

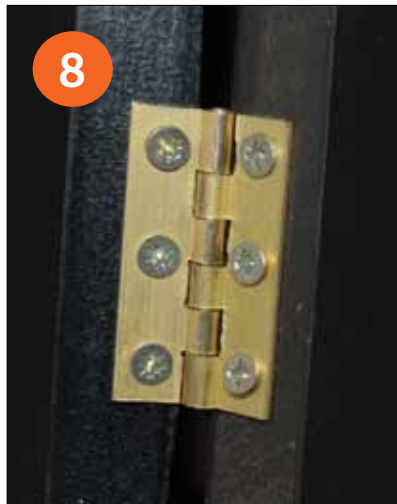
MOROCCAN DETAIL

- After transferring a design onto clear self-adhesive vinyl, use a craft knife to cut mat to cut out sections where paint would be applied. Carefully place the vinyl onto the panel, positioning correctly.
- Mask off surrounding areas with newspaper to protect from overspray and lightly apply metallic spray over the stencil. Allow to dry before removing the stencil.



Around the cut outs at the top we used a Rust-Oleum paint pen to apply a small line around the edge. This gives a lovely decorative finish. For added protection and to provide a high gloss finish, spray the panels with Rust-Oleum Polyurethane.

Note: Spray from a distance of 30cm and lightly coat the front, back and edges of the panels. Allow to dry.



On the left panel use a tape measure and pencil to measure 30cm down from the top and 30cm up from the bottom and mark on the right edge of the panel. This is where you will attach the hinges. Place the hinges against the marked lines and use a pencil to mark holes for the screws. Use a drill/driver and 2mm drill bit to drill pilot holes. Position the hinges against the marks and attach to the edges with screws. Repeat this for the right panel on the left edge, and the centre panel on both edges. ■



DIY TIP:
If you need to do any touch-ups, spray paint into the lid of the can and use an artist's paint brush to apply to the surface.