pattern work

stencilling

Stencils are a hugely flexible and diverse way of adding patterns to virtually anything. You can do entire walls, portions of furniture, pots, the edges of floors, frames or whatever takes your fancy.

The style of the stencil you use can range from modern to classic, small to large. You can make your own stencils or buy them online. Or you can use something slightly unexpected, like a cake stencil or a doily, as a stencil.

Use low-tack masking tape to keep your stencil in place. Use a sponge for stencilling, not a brush, and make sure you don't overload it, or the paint will bleed underneath the edge of the stencil. Pour the paint into a shallow tray or dish and keep a rag or paper towel on hand to dab off excess paint. Carefully lift the stencil off and place it in the next position for painting.

Resene Double Alabaster

Resene Quarter Truffle

Resene Quarter Delta

Resene Woodsman Iroko

Resene Bullitt

Resene All Black

Left: Outdoor shower in Resene All Black, Resene Quarter Delta, Resene Quarter Truffle and Resene Double Alabaster. Timber deck slats in Resene Woodsman Iroko.

Right: Glass vase stencil in Resene Redemption Blue (try Resene Bullitt).

Above left: Detail of floor stencil in Resene Elderflower (try Resene Umber White) and Resene Peace (try Resene Spanish Green). A4 drawdown paint swatches in (from top to bottom) Resene Smoothie (try Resene Sugar Loaf), Resene New Leaf (try Resene Clay Creek), Resene Elderflower and Resene Peace.

Above right: Moroccan-inspired stencil in Resene Half Delta and Resene Quarter Alabaster.

Right: Floor stencil in Resene Time After Time (try Resene Escapade) and Resene Wishing Well (try Resene Cobalt). Wall in Resene Dynamite.

Resene
Spanish Green

Resene
Quarter Alabaster

Resene
Umber White

Resene
Half Delta

Resene
Sugar Loaf

Resene
Clay Creek

Resene
Escapade

Resene
Cobalt

Resene
Dynamite

faux finishes

The beauty of paint is that it can be used to mimic virtually anything – a stone or tiled floor (opposite left), a concrete wall (above) or a terrazzo surface (left). Some of these looks can be achieved with stencils or masking, while others rely on a more free-form approach. If you're unsure of your artistic talents, practice on cardboard first.

Left: Back wall in Resene Jaguar with painted terrazzo in Resene Alpaca, Resene Urbane and Resene Tom Tom. Left wall in Resene Tangaroa, right wall in Resene High Tide and floor in Resene Mercury.

Above: This faux concrete wall uses a colourwash technique with Resene Half Raven, Resene Grey Chateau, Resene Double Concrete and Resene Half Concrete.

Resene
Half Alabaster

Resene
Midwinter Mist

Resene
Arrowroot

Resene
Stack

Far left: The crazy tile effect on the floor is created using Resene Midwinter Mist with painted 'grout' in Resene Stack. Wall in Resene FX Paint Effects medium coloured with Resene Half Alabaster over Resene Arrowroot. The skirting board is in Resene Half Alabaster.

Left: This screen is painted in Resene FX Faux Rust Effect to give the look of weathered steel.

Resene
Half Concrete

Resene
Double Concrete

Resene
Mercury

Resene
Urbane

Resene
Tom Tom

Resene
Half Raven

Resene
Grey Chateau

Resene
Tangaroa

Resene
High Tide

Resene
Jaguar

Worn and weathered materials are perennially popular, and the current darling of them all is rusted steel. Resene FX Faux Rust Effect (above) creates a rust effect on exterior and interior surfaces. The look continues to develop as the coating ages. Leave it as is or protect it with diluted Resene Waterborne Aquapel.

woodgrain

Woodgraining looks best where wood might normally have been used. In the majority of cases, it is best to use tones of the same colour. Usually the basecoat is lighter than the effects finish applied to the top. To create a woodgrain effect you can either use a stencil, paint your wood texture freehand or experiment with items such as combs.
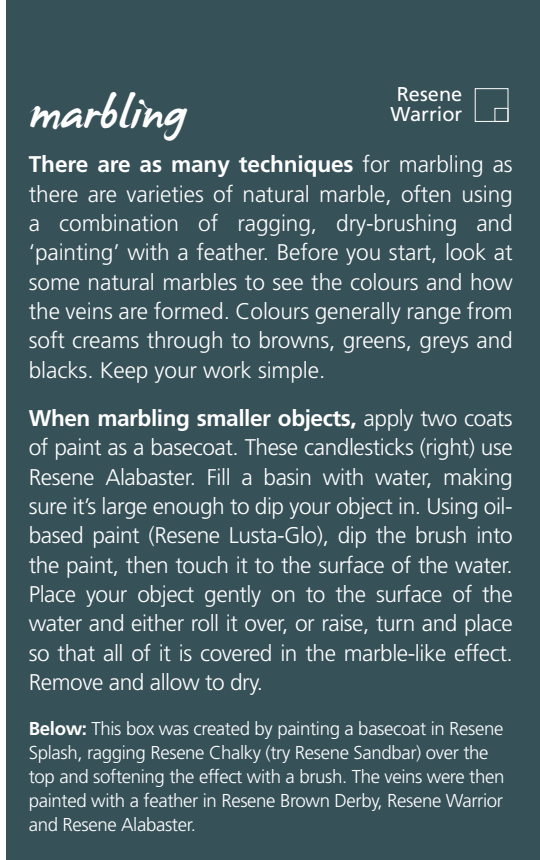
Resene
Sand

Resene
Splash

Resene
Sandbar

Resene
Foundry

Above: This woodgrain effect is created by special effects artist Greer Clayton using bands of colour as the background, in Resene Matchstick (try Resene Sand), Resene Foundry and Resene Triple Black White, with woodgrain stencils on top in Resene Gold Dust metallic, Resene Proton metallic and Resene Alabaster.

marbling

Resene
Warrior

There are as many techniques for marbling as there are varieties of natural marble, often using a combination of ragging, dry-brushing and 'painting' with a feather. Before you start, look at some natural marbles to see the colours and how the veins are formed. Colours generally range from soft creams through to browns, greens, greys and blacks. Keep your work simple.

When marbling smaller objects, apply two coats of paint as a basecoat. These candlesticks (right) use Resene Alabaster. Fill a basin with water, making sure it's large enough to dip your object in. Using oil-based paint (Resene Lusta-Glo), dip the brush into the paint, then touch it to the surface of the water. Place your object gently on to the surface of the water and either roll it over, or raise, turn and place so that all of it is covered in the marble-like effect. Remove and allow to dry.

Below: This box was created by painting a basecoat in Resene Splash, ragging Resene Chalky (try Resene Sandbar) over the top and softening the effect with a brush. The veins were then painted with a feather in Resene Brown Derby, Resene Warrior and Resene Alabaster.

Resene
Triple Black White

Resene
Alabaster

Resene
Proton

Resene
Brown Derby

Resene
Gold Dust

Resene
Waiouru

Resene
Dark Knight

batten down

A simple way to add interest and dimension to any wall – inside or out – is by adding battens, and to avoid the hassle of filling nail holes, simply use construction glue. Add battens in any shape or form: to mimic traditional panelling, in quirky random lengths or on the diagonal for drama, then paint.

Resene
Cashmere

Resene Colorwood
Natural

Resene Colorwood
Mid Greywash

Resene Colorwood
Crowshead

Resene
Gravel

Resene
Quarter Concrete

Clockwise from left: Wall and panelling of this rosy room are painted in Resene Cashmere, flooring in Resene Colorwood Natural. This diagonal batten room is painted Resene Waiouru, with two battens painted in Resene Gravel and floor in Resene Quarter Spanish White. This blue lounge has a wall painted in Resene Twilight Zone (try Resene Dark Knight) and floor in Resene Colorwood Mid Greywash over Resene Colorwood Crowshead. This relaxing bedroom has a wall in Resene Quarter Emerge (try Resene Mystic) and floor in Resene Quarter Concrete.

Resene
Mystic

découpage

Découpage is the art of cutting out pieces of paper or sometimes fabric and gluing them to hard surfaces. A popular style in 17th century Italy, découpage's name is derived from the Middle French word découper, meaning 'to cut up'. The style is a great way of hiding imperfections on a surface. Try using leftover pieces of wallpaper and gluing them to a vintage trunk or table in a symmetrical pattern.

Above: This harlequin style floor is made from magazine clippings découpaged onto the painted floorboards in Resene Half Thorndon Cream and then sealed in three coats of Resene Aquaclear. The feature wall colour is Resene Niagara and the side walls and trims are Resene Alabaster.

prints

Paint can be used for printing using a variety of techniques, from the humble potato print to more ambitious methods.

Printing is the reverse of stencilling – you are coating or dipping whatever printing tool you choose into the paint, then pressing it on to the wall or other surface.

Here are some ideas:

• Use a classic potato print to decorate smaller surfaces such as furniture, accessories or fabric.

• For larger prints, cut shapes out of a household sponge. This wall frieze (opposite top) was created using sponges cut into triangles with the dark colour (Resene Bronze) laid over the lighter colour (Resene Triple Wheatfield) and vice versa. The wall opposite right was inspired by a wallpaper design and uses the same technique with half circles cut out of a sponge, then painted in two colourways, Resene Triple Friar Greystone and Resene Half White Pointer on a Resene Quarter Friar Greystone wall.

• Use organic materials such as leaves to create a wonderful artwork (opposite left). This uses Resene Kamikaze, Resene Lightning Yellow, Resene Poppy, Resene Persian Red and Resene Ayers Rock.
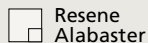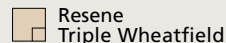

Resene Persian Red

Resene Lightning Yellow

Resene Kamikaze

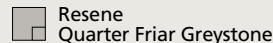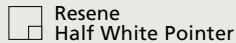|	
Resene Alabaster	Resene Triple Wheatfield
Resene Half Thorndon Cream	Resene Quarter Friar Greystone
Resene Half White Pointer	Resene Triple Friar Greystone
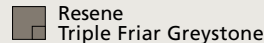
Resene Bronze
Resene Poppy
Resene Niagara

To add some delicate shimmer to a painted wall or object, use Resene FX Pearl Shimmer. It's great for kids' rooms where a little moon dust or fairy dust is needed.

Clockwise from left: This unbe-leafable artwork is painted in Resene Ayers Rock, Resene Lightning Yellow, Resene Poppy, Resene Persian Red and Resene Kamikaze. The bottom wall is Resene Bronze teamed with Resene Triple Wheatfield on the top of the wall and a triangle pattern using a simple sponge stencil. This semi-circle pattern is created using Resene Half White Pointer and Resene Triple Friar Greystone sponged onto a Resene Quarter Friar Greystone wall.