SCAREDY-SCARECROW

Protect newly sown seeds and young plants from hungry birds with this fun-to-make scarecrow.

WORDS & PHOTOS MARK RAYNER

YOU WILL NEED
- An old shirt and a piece of fabric for the scarecrow's scarf
- Corn broom
- Exterior PVA glue
- Garden twine
- Paintbrushes
- Piece of wooden dowel cut to about 70cm long (we used an old broom handle)
- Resene Quick Dry
- Resene testpots of Resene Alabaster, Resene Black, Resene Curious Blue and Resene La Bamba

Tip
If you don't have a piece of dowel for the arms, you can use a bamboo cane instead.

Step 1 Apply one coat of Resene Quick Dry to the bottom half of the head of the corn broom as shown, and also to the piece of wooden dowel. Allow the Resene Quick Dry to dry.

Step 2 Attach the piece of wooden dowel to the corn broom to form the scarecrow's arms, fixing tightly with garden twine. Apply a generous amount of exterior PVA glue over and around the knotted twine and allow the glue to dry.

Step 3 Apply two coats of Resene La Bamba to the bottom half of the corn broom and also to the piece of dowel. Allow at least two hours for each coat to dry.

Step 4 Paint two circles to form the scarecrow's eyes, as shown, using Resene Alabaster. Allow the paint to dry.

Step 5 Paint two smaller circles, as shown, using Resene Curious Blue and allow the paint to dry.

Step 6 Paint the remaining facial features of the scarecrow, as shown, using Resene Black. Once again, allow the paint to dry.

Step 7 Dress the scarecrow in the old shirt and tie the piece of fabric around the neck to form a scarf.

Step 8 To stand your scarecrow up, simply sink the end of the broom handle directly into the ground or fit it into an old umbrella base stand. If you want the scarecrow to stand a bit taller, you can use garden twine to attach it to an existing fence post or a longer garden stake.

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