

# Rustication!

*Rusticate definition* is - to go into or reside in the country : follow a rustic life.

Shabby Chic has been a trend for a while now. Rustication is a natural development.

There have been some stunning pieces on Facebook lately. This has inspired these projects to put together a rustic retreat.

## A kitchen vegetable stand.

The challenge of making this stand was to be able to make it at the kitchen table, with no cutting of hard wire, trying to bend it to shape and soldering or any other dangerous stuff.

### Materials:

Household cotton string

Two bottle caps 4cm in diameter.

Two short lengths of ice cream sticks

Some very fine green florist wire

Two beads and a short length of dowel

Blackboard paint or flat black paint.

PVA glue

A small amount of Plaster of Paris. (1/2 teaspoon)

A piece of foam to work on

Several pins

### Assembly:

Cut a piece of string 22cm long.

Draw out your design. Cut it out and pin to the foam. Lay out the string around the shape. Check that the bottle cap will fit between the sides with a little bit of ease. Now mix up 1/2 tsp of Plaster of Paris with 1/2 tsp of PVA glue and a few drops of water to make it the consistency of thick cream.

Paint this mixture along the string. Do 2 or 3 coats. When dry this hardens nicely. Leave

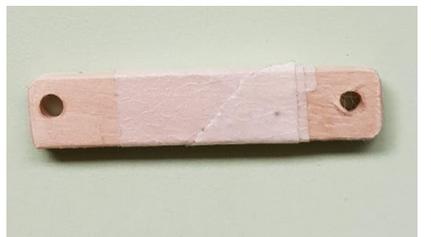
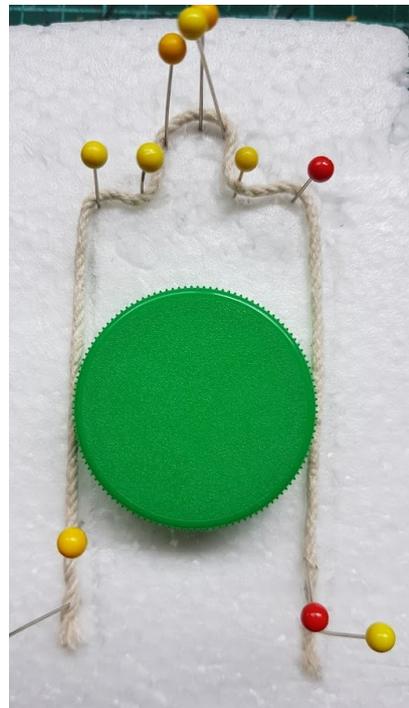


into 4.5 cm lengths and tape together.

Drill a hole on either side making sure the caps will fit between the holes.

The drill bit is 2mm but check that the finished frame will thread through the holes.

Separate the two pieces.



Thread the legs of your frame through the two pieces of wood. Position them where you want them and glue into place. Glue two beads onto the ends of the legs.

to dry overnight or you will swim in a sea of regrets.

Next day: Paint on another three coats on the other side. At this stage it is stiff enough to unpin from the foam.

Let dry again. If you don't think it is stiff enough reinforce it by twisting the fine florist wire around it, in the direction of the twist of the string.

Cut the two ice block sticks

When this is dry glue the two bottle caps on top of the pieces of wood.

With the beads glued in place, measure up from the floor to the



bottom of the lower cap and cut a piece of dowel this length. This is the stabilising third leg. Glue into place.

Once the glue is all dry, paint the entire assembly with the flat black paint.



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This project appeared in the December Issue of Miniature Time Issue 27. There are lots of good projects in this magazine.