

GUTTER GARDEN

Rose Hughes turns a simple piece of PVC spouting into a pretty planter.



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MATERIALS

You will need:

- Length of PVC gutter (spouting), right and left end caps and brackets
- Optional: length of 20mm x 3mm aluminium bar, hacksaw, wood vice
- Welding solvent
- Handsaw
- Drill and small bit
- Screws for the PVC brackets
- Paint test pots
- Masking tape/ spare card (stencil)
- Paintbrush/stencil brush.

Cost: \$80 excluding paint and plants (includes the option of the aluminium brackets)

1 Work out the length(s) of gutter that you need and cut. Tidy the cut edges, apply the welding solvent as per the instructions and attach the end caps.

2 Drill a series of small drainage holes at each end. Apply two coats of main colour paint to the gutter and brackets. I used Resene's Full Monty and Limerick.

3 I found a suitable image online and made the stencils out of card. Masking tape the stencils into position and apply paint using a stencil brush. Allow to dry.

4 If you want to hook the gutter over a deck railing or the edge of a balcony, measure and bend the aluminium bar to fit, cut and duplicate for the second bracket. Paint the front faces to match the garden.

5 You can also paint and attach the gutter brackets to a vertical wall or fence. Use two or three lengths of gutter stacked horizontally to make a tiered garden; a great way to cover a tired fence, or create extra growing space. ❀