

DIY PROJECT

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LIGHT FANTASTIC

Rose Hughes shows how to create this original, upcycled light feature.



PHOTOS: ROSE HUGHES

MATERIALS

You will need • Approximately 80cm diameter hoop. You could use an old wooden hula hoop, but I bought 3m of 15mm copper and had it rolled into a circle by an engineer. Check with your plumber as well. • 10mm dowel offcuts • Suitable glue • Clamps • Bamboo • Hacksaw/handsaw/drop saw • 2 x 40mm screws • Sandpaper • Glass tealight holders (look for ones with removable handles) and tealights • Resene Quick Dry Primer, test pots and brushes **Cost:** \$140 excluding paint

1 If required, join the copper circle. Trim off the excess with a hacksaw and glue a short dowel into one end. Allow to dry, glue the exposed dowel, insert into the copper tube and clamp until dry.

2 Cut a 90cm length of bamboo of a similar diameter. Shape the ends so that they will meet the inner surface of the circle neatly without distorting the shape (I used an offcut of the copper with sandpaper wrapped around it). Cut two short lengths of dowel, glue and insert into each end, flush with the inner edge.

3 Cut various diameter bamboo into varied short lengths. Cut some at the joints so you have hollow and end pieces. Sand well.

4 Using Resene Quick Dry Primer and test pots, undercoat and topcoat the pieces with ends. I used Black, White, Yes Please, Freelance, Copper Fire and basecoat Wild West.

5 Mark the position of the bamboo "shelf". Drill a small hole through the copper and a larger hole on the outside face (only) and attach with screws.

6 Arrange the bamboo pieces, glue into position using a suitable glue. Paint the handles of the tealight holders if desired. Suspend in position. Hang the tealight holders and add the candles. ❀