

It's easy to finish off a fireplace with this stylish rimu hearth surround.

★★★ Difficulty level ★ easy ★★ moderate ★★★ challenging

Ways with wood
with Mark Rayner – 89

You will need:

- 20mm x 40mm dressed rimu (approx 3m)
- Bucket with tile grout mixed to manufacturer's instructions
- Clean cloths
- Mitre saw
- Paintbrush
- Pen or pencil
- PVA glue
- Resene paint pot
- Resene Polythane
- Resene Polythane Brush Cleaner
- Rubber gloves
- Sandpaper
- Squeegee for grouting
- Sponge
- Tape measure
- Tiled or concrete hearth



Step one

Measure the dimensions of the hearth and mark accordingly on the piece of rimu.



Step two

Set the mitre saw to forty five degrees and cut the lengths of rimu to size. Smooth any rough edges with sandpaper. Check that the pieces fit correctly around the hearth.



Step three

Apply PVA glue to the bottom of each length of rimu and also a little at each of the mitred joints.



Step four

Carefully place the pieces of rimu into position and allow the PVA glue to dry overnight.



Step five

Lightly sand the edges and corners of the rimu surround and then wipe off any sanding residue with a clean cloth.



Step six

Apply three to four coats of Resene Polythane to the rimu surround allowing a minimum of three hours for each coat to dry.



Step seven

Clean the brush with Resene Polythane Brush Cleaner.



Step eight

Apply tile grout to the gap between the tiled hearth and rimu surround, following manufacturer's instructions. Wipe off any excess with a damp sponge and allow to dry.



To get the look: Mark also varnished the native timber floorboards with four coats of Resene Polythane.



Other ideas: If you prefer to use a waterborne product, varnish the rimu surround with Resene Aquaclear instead.

For more ideas and inspiration visit your local Resene ColorShop or www.resene.com/colorshops.

Check out more project ideas online www.resene.com/projects.