

# Herby Plant Pot



## You will need:

*A terracotta plant pot with a drainage hole (and tray) - size depends on how many plants you want to plant in it.*



*Paintbrushes of various sizes*



*Water based acrylic paints or emulsion paints - your local craft shop will be able to advise you*



*Clear waterproof sealant - if you want the design to last and especially if it is to be kept outside*



*Either: herb seeds or a shop bought herb plant(s)*

## Instructions



1. Make sure the pot is clean and dust free - rinse with water and dry. Protect your painting area with newspaper or a plastic sheet and make sure you're wearing old clothes or a protective apron. Get all the colours you need out and a range of brushes - thick ones for large areas, thinner ones for detailed pictures or writing.



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2. If you want the pot to have a different background colour, paint it all over the outside and about an inch down on the inside with this colour, and allow to dry.
3. Think about what pattern you would like to paint on the pot, sketch it if necessary or create/use a stencil. Some stencil shape ideas are: stars, flowers or hearts. If stencil cutouts are too tricky, cut out some shapes and glue them on to the pot. You can then paint around them and carefully peel them off to reveal the shape in the base colour. You can find some stencil shape ideas on the next page.
4. Paint on your pattern/stencil/picture onto the pot and leave to dry. Allow each colour to dry before applying another so they don't run into each other.
5. If you are applying the waterproof sealant apply now and leave to dry for a week or so before using the pot.

6. Once the paint and sealant has dried thoroughly, there are two choices: fill the pot with compost, sow some seeds in it and label with a plant marker so the recipient knows what will be growing. Or buy a ready grown herb plant, place it into your pot and fill in any gaps with extra compost.
7. To finish off you could write on the front of the pot or make a plant marker with the name of the plant on it. Or you could wrap a colourful ribbon around the pot.
8. If you want to you could attach a gift tag or a tag/mini leaflet with instructions on it describing what the plant is, how to look after it - should it be kept indoors or outdoors and/or what you can use it for.



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## Stencil Shape Ideas

