

PAINTING OUTDOOR POTS

How-To

Turn a terra-cotta pot into a colorful complement to your flowers. Follow these step-by-step instructions to create a charming harlequin flower pot.



SKILL LEVEL: Novice
TIME: 24-48 hours (including primer, paint, and polyurethane drying times)
COST: Under \$50

TOOLS & MATERIALS

- Norcal 10 in. Terra-Cotta Flower Pot
- Hobby knife
- Primer made for terra-cotta (or other appropriate primer depending on the material you're using)
- Exterior water-based polyurethane
- 1" painter's tape
- Paint brush
- Artist's brush
- Exterior paint or project paint
- Ruler
- Pencil

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STEP 1

Prime the pot with a primer appropriate for the material. Follow the instructions on the primer container. Then, create a harlequin pattern on your pot. Draw the pattern in pencil, or you can purchase ready-made stencils in the paint department of your local The Home Depot store.



STEP 2

Tape off the lines with painter's tape. Trim off the excess tape with your hobby knife.



STEP 3

With a paintbrush, paint over the tape to create your diamond pattern. Don't use too much paint, though, or it will bleed through the tape.



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STEP 4

Once the paint is dry, switch the tape to the outside of the pattern, and fill it in with an artist's brush.



STEP 5

Then simply remove the tape, touch up any imperfections and enjoy! If you plan to set the pot outside, seal it with a water-based, exterior grade polyurethane. Use two or three coats.

