

CUBED COLOUR



Cubed Colour is a beautifully simple project that appeals to all ages. As children's play bricks they are unbeatable. Hand painting the cubes celebrates colour and mark making, such as exploring opacity versus transparency.

Natural curiosity will take this project in new directions. A teenager may imagine the cubes as a wall mounted abstract sculpture or a desk toy - good for resting the mind when revising for exams. We took some really interesting photographs too.

The cubes can be decorated with numbers and letters - the cube is your oyster!

Materials:

2"x 2" or 5 cm x 5 cm (square section) wood approximately a meter long, from a skip (we asked the builder's permission first).

Please be aware that salvaged wood may have toxic paint on it and could have sharp nails and splinters.

Please get an adult to make sure the wood is clean and safe.

Primer (water based)

Paints (water based)

Tools:

Ruler

Pencil

Sandpaper

Saw

Artist's quality soft paint brush for acrylic paints. A flat end is good, about 1" wide. Look after this brush, use it gently, wash with great care and stand it in a pot with the bristles in the air to dry and keep straight.



Method:

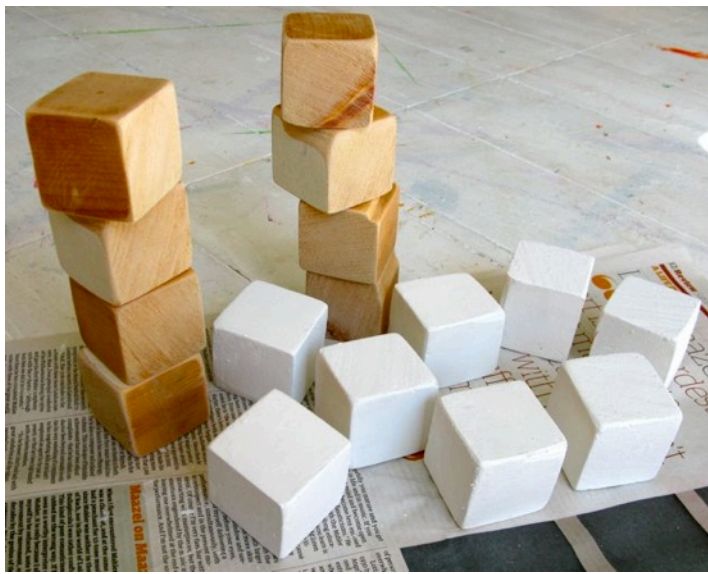
1. Mark your wood, you can cut the first cube and use it as a template. An adult is usually good with a saw. Cut as many bricks as you like.





2. The rough cut bricks will have splinters and some wood may split off. You can use wood glue to stick the big bits back on, however we chose to accept this natural splitting and simply sanded the sharp edges smooth so they wouldn't split any further or cause splinters. It made the cubes more organic and gave them character.





3. You can prime the smooth bricks. You can also leave them unpainted.

Handy hint: paint the cubes 3 sides at a time, leaving the primer and paint to dry before you paint the remaining 3 sides.

4. Photographic work.



5. Enjoy yourselves with colour!

6. You can decorate the bricks in different ways: numbers, letters, patterns, parts of animals or people so you can mix and match forms.

Handy hint: If you want to make the bricks tough, you can finish them with a non toxic water based varnish.

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