

Rock basket **Seatt**

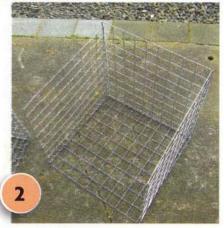
Build a gabion bench using 'rock baskets'.

You will need:

- Parasene Rock Baskets in the following dimensions:
- 2 of 45cm x 45cm x 60cm
- 3 of 45cm x 45cm x 45m
- 300mm x 50mm treated timber
- 100mm (about) diameter stones
- 4 of 600mm sheet brace straps
- 2 of 300mm sheet brace straps
- 40mm aalvanised flat head nails
- Plank of wood (for levelling ground)
- Spirit level, tape measure and pencil
- Hammer, saw and pliers
- Stones to fill baskets
- Sandpaper
- Resene Timber & Furniture Gel in Silvered Grey
- Latex gloves, clean dry lint-free cloth



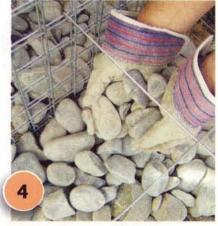
Prepare and level the ground using the plank of wood and spirit level, as shown. We used crushed pumice to achieve a level surface but you could also use sand or simply level the topsoil.



Always following manufacturer's instructions, begin to assemble the rock baskets, screwing the edge 'spirals' provided into position and crimping one end with pliers.



Place the baskets in position, as shown, with two smaller baskets behind (beside the fence) and two larger and one small basket in front. Secure together at the edges with the 'spirals' provided (following the manufacturer's instructions.)



Use the plank of wood and spirit level to double check that the baskets are level. Carefully fill each basket with stones, as shown.



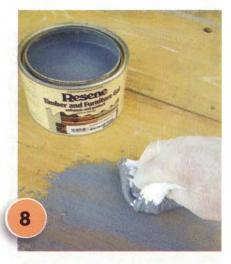
Cut two 180cm lengths and four 45cm lengths from the 300mm x 50mm timber. Smooth any rough edges with sandpaper.



Fix the top of each basket into position using the 'spirals'. Wash any dust off the stones with clean water.



On a flat surface, assemble the wooden seat (face down) to form a wide 'U' shape. Fix the planks together with brace straps and 40mm nails. Apply a generous coat of Resene Timber and Furniture Gel to the seat's underside. Allow an hour to dry.



Carefully place the seat upright on the baskets. Apply the Resene gel to its top and side edges with a clean, lint-free cloth, lightly rubbing the gel along the timber grain with a medium pressure. Allow to dry for an hour and apply a second coat.

Mark Rayner

• Parasene Rock Baskets are available from Mitre 10 and Farmlands.

Top tip:

The weight of the bench seat is enough to keep the seat in position on top of the rock baskets but, if it doesn't quite sit flat, you can attach it to the baskets from underneath using galvanised or stainless steel screws and small brackets.