

DIY



It's a frame-up

Mark Rayner crafts a plant tower – a great feature for a sheltered corner.

THIS frame is ideal for a hybrid clematis, runner beans, fragrant sweetpeas or other mild-mannered climbers. Use it in a sheltered garden corner or on a patio with a potted plant.

You will need:

- 25mm x 25mm treated timber cut to the following dimensions:
 - 6 x 1.8m lengths
 - 32 x 300mm lengths
- Hammer
- 40mm jolthead galvanised nails
- Exterior PVA glue and set square
- Drill and drill bits
- Paintbrush and sandpaper
- Resene Quick Dry
- Resene Lumbersider tinted to Resene Time Out



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1

Measure and cut the timber to the lengths above.



2

Smooth rough edges with sandpaper.



3

Assemble the frame front, as shown, by fixing eight horizontal struts about 160mm apart with plenty of glue and nails (drill pilot holes first). Use a set square so corners are at right angles.



4

Repeat step 3 to assemble the back of the frame, as shown.



5

Using the same technique, join the front and back sections together with eight horizontal struts down each side – align these side struts with the struts on the front and back.



6

Trim the bottom off both central vertical supports, as shown. Ensure the cut is flush with the edge of the bottom strut. Leave the frame overnight for the glue to dry.



7

Apply one coat of Resene Quick Dry to the frame. Allow two hours drying time.



8

Apply two coats of Resene Time Out to the frame, allowing two hours for each coat to dry.

Top tips:

- We used fencing timber 25mm x 25mm offcuts but you could use 20mm x 20mm garden stakes instead.
- To fix the tower to the ground, drive a garden stake into the soil behind each leg and nail them to their respective legs with galvanised nails.