beautify an old bench

Mark Rayner gives an old wooden bench a new lease of life.

You will need

- Old wooden bench
- About 9m of 100mm x 25mm (dressed) kwila decking
- Circular saw
- Set square
- Pencil
- Screwdriver
- 30mm stainless steel bolts
- 20mm stainless steel screws
- Wire brush
- Resene Rust Arrest
- Resene Super Gloss tinted to Resene Black Forest
- Resene Kwila Timber Stain
- Turps (for cleaning brushes)
- Paintbrushes
- Dry cloth

To get the look

Mark painted the background retaining wall with Resene Woodsman tinted to Resene Oiled Cedar.

1 Dismantle the wooden bench. Use the wire brush to remove any areas of rust on the back panel and end legs, as shown.

2 Spot prime the areas of bare iron with Resene Rust-Arrest. Allow to dry for 24 hours.

3 Paint the back panel and end legs with one coat of Resene Black Forest. Allow to dry for 16 hours before applying a second coat.

4 Using the original wooden slats as a guide, measure and cut the decking to size. Our slats were 75mmW x 1.2mL. Measure and cut the two smaller lengths for back panel.
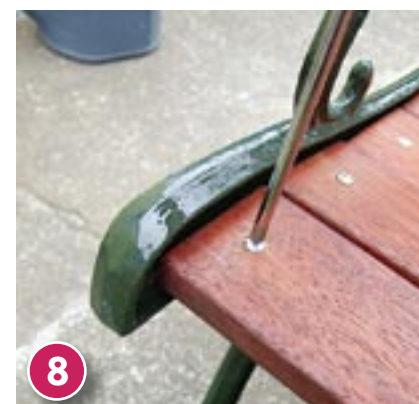

5 Measure and drill a 6mm hole at either end of the seating slats – again, use the original wooden slats as a guide.

6 Apply one coat of Resene Kwila Timber Stain to the kwila slats.

7 Wipe off any excess timber stain with a dry, lint-free cloth. Allow to dry thoroughly for 24 hours.

8 Reassemble the wooden bench using the stainless steel bolts and screws.

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