

Re-cycled Glass Bottles



Made into Vases! This project is not hard, but you do need one special piece of kit!! It`s called a bottle cutting kit. I got mine from a company in England through an advert in the back of Crafts Beautiful Magazine. Just discovered that you can also cut the bottles using string and nail varnish remover! Just Google it and you`ll see links to Pinterest, where you will get instructions.

The bottles are just wine or spirit bottles, I manage to get some from the local pub, so they`re a little bigger. But, I do use ordinary wine bottles as well. When you start cutting the bottles, use ones that are not too pretty, as it takes a little practice to cut them, and your first efforts will not always work. But once you have the knack, it`s not too difficult. The main thing is , once you have them cut, you have to make sure you smooth the cut edge well. I have found that if you use "wet and dry" sand paper on a drill sander, rough first, then fine grain. Finish off with fine grain wet and dry by hand (fold over top edge, and run around) it gives you a really smooth polished edge. I also wear garden gloves when I`m sanding the edge as it can still be quite sharp!

Once you have mastered your technique, it comes to decorating them. There are many ways, painting with glass paint, decoupage, sticking on shells or those little glass beads that are flat on the back, your imagination can run wild!! I have shown just three of mine. You can also use them to put candles in and they can then be used as patio lights, or put on the table at Christmas, and used as a center piece.

Here`s how I did the Thistle vase shown above.

1) Choose your bottle, cut and polish the edge.

2) If you are using a clear glass bottle, now is the time to paint the background, I used glass paint put onto crunched up cling film and pulled from top to bottom which gave me a subtle line effect. See fig 1.



3) Decide what you are going to use it for , and pick a design to suit.

4) Size and copy it onto paper. >5) Examine the cut vase, sometimes there are dimples at the base, so be careful, where you position your design. Put the design inside the vase and tape into place. 6) I used liquid led out liner on the outlines of this vase,(see fig 2), but you could use a permanent marker, or just glass paint . I used glass paint to fill in the colours. When using glass paints remember to follow the manufactures instructions. If this requires them to be baked in the oven, you should have no problems with these types of bottles.



That`s it !! Nothing too complicated. Have a go. Anyone who has seen mine, has no idea that these lovely vases were once bottles hanging on a gantry in the local PUB!!!