

Paper Mache Shell Bowl

Outcome

A beautiful shell bowl will be created, just like Nerrilee and her friends use.

What you will need

Picnic set plastic bowl

Vaseline

Newspaper ripped into strips about 2cm wide and 10cm long

Butchers paper ripped into strips about 2cm wide and 10cm long

Wallpaper paste (available from a hardware store)

Acrylic paints in white and pearl

Scissors

Old newspaper

Here's how to make it!

- o Spread newspaper over your work area to protect it from glue and paint.
- o Cover the plastic bowl really well in Vaseline, this will make it easier to lift off the paper mache when the shell is completed and dry.
- o Apply the newspaper strips in a layer over the bowl, dipping each strip in the wallpaper paste first.
- o Apply the second layer using the butcher's paper strips. This lets you make sure there are no bits missed in each layer.
- o Repeat the layers again. Then allow a day to dry. Continue these steps.

Tip: Paper mache is stronger if done in layers and allowed to dry in between.

- o When the bowl is thick enough add a final layer of butcher's paper and let dry.
- o Gently remove from the bowl and wipe the inside to remove the Vaseline residue.
- o Cut the edge in a slightly scalloped pattern (see photo) and paint inside and outside with white acrylic paint.
- o When dry, paint all over with pearl acrylic paint.

Variations

Use different shaped plastic bowls for a collection of shell bowls.

Paint a bowl blue and glue on cut out fish, seaweed and coral for a different look.

Paint the bowl gold and glue on sequins and adhesive jewels to be part of your treasure.