



2-in-1 Bathroom Shelf

This project is great where you need extra storage without taking up too much space. With it's top shelf for bathroom essentials and hangers for towels, everything is neatly organised.

You will need:

- 18mm plywood
- [1] 500 x 300mm (back)
- [1] 500 x 200mm (shelf)
- [2] 200 x 200mm (brackets)
- [2] 25mm dowels

Tools:

- Jigsaw with fine cutting blade
- Multi sander
- Drill with 10mm bit, 25mm spade bit

Here's how:

1. Draw the outline for your brackets onto a piece of paper and transfer this onto the 200x200mm pieces that will be used as brackets. Use your jigsaw to cut around the drawn edges. To cut out the centre, drill a 10mm hole to allow access of the jigsaw blade; cut out. Repeat this for the top back design.

DIY Tip:

When using a jigsaw to cut curved edges, use a fine toothed blade and proceed slowly. If you find that you are moving away from the cutting line, pull back slightly on the jigsaw and move back in.

2. Drill pilot holes and countersink to attach brackets and shelf. Apply wood glue before screwing all pieces into position. Finish the construction by lightly sanding with fine grit sandpaper to smooth all edges.
3. Use a 25mm spade bit to drill two holes. Apply wood glue and insert cut lengths of 25mm dowels.



4. Apply two coats of white acrylic paint, allowing sufficient drying time between coats. I always use Plascon Polvin as it's very affordable and quick drying.

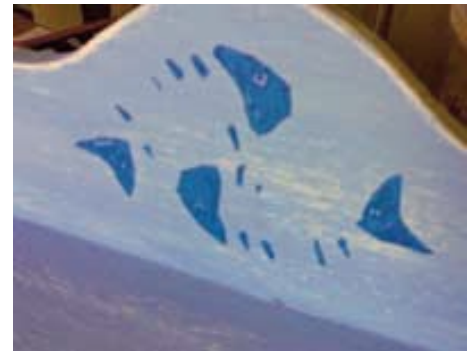
5. For the top coat I mixed a bit of Buffalo Universal Stainer (blue) to get a very pale blue shade. Dip the paint brush lightly in the blue and then into the white and apply to the surface. You want to get a streaked effect. See below for tips on sanding the shelf. Finish off with two coats of water-based gloss glazecoat.



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Finishing off with a distressed look

1. Once the top coat of paint has dried completely, go over the entire project with medium-grit sandpaper to scrape back to the base coat - particularly around the edges. This will give the shelf a distressed and aged look that is wonderful for a country or casual bathroom.
2. You can use any stencil that you wish. We used a fish stencil as the design for the project as the shelf needed to have a seaside theme to tie in with the existing bathroom decor, which is blue and yellow.



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