

## How to distress furniture with rustic charm



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**WARNING:** There may be by laws or regulations of councils or other statutory bodies that you must comply with when following this MitrePlan Project Planner.

### HOW TO DISTRESS FURNITURE WITH RUSTIC CHARM

with Scott Cam

Now you may think that distressing furniture is beyond you, but our simple step-by-step video shows you how easy it is. Follow Scott's Mighty Helpful tips on the video and the job's done.

Find out how to at [mitre10.com.au/tips](http://mitre10.com.au/tips)

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## MITREPLAN PROJECT PLANNER

## How to distress furniture with rustic charm



- An easy-to-follow guide to achieving a perfect result.
- Outlines all the tools you will need for the job.
- Includes a materials checklist.

**PLEASE NOTE:**

Before starting this project or buying any materials, it is worth your time to read all steps thoroughly first to be sure you understand what is required.

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# Scotty's Workshop #2 NEW 2 OLD Fact Sheet

Try these simple techniques to distress bland new furniture and give it that popular rustic charm.

## ✓ MIGHTY HELPFUL CHECKLIST

Your local Mitre10 store will stock everything you need.

	Material	ORDER
	Sand paper	
	Rags	
	<b>Tools &amp; implements to distress raw wooden furniture</b>	
	Link Chain x 1 Metre	
	Nails	
	Hammer (Various)	
	Wire Brush	
	Wattyl Wood Stains	
	Water-based Acrylic Paints	
	Paint Brushes & Rollers	
	Sealer and Wax	

The Waxing method, this is the best method for newbies to the distressing process. First give the furniture a thorough sanding being careful to sand with the grain of the wood not across it.

### Step 1: Distressing the Wood

Take to the top, front and sides with the various implements at hand. Swing a length of chain across it. Hammer nails into it then rip them out. Dent the surface in a random manner with any type of hammer.

It's better to distress the wood in a random fashion. Regular patterns look less authentic.

**NOTE:** if distressing a chest of drawers, remove the handles first.

### Step 2:

Next up is to apply the first coat of paint. Apply a dark coloured water based paint watered down to approximately a 50% - 50% mix with a brush or rag. The darker the colour the better the finish. Don't try to get a perfect finish, it's a distressed look after all. This has to be sanded down so do not apply to much paint.

Once dry and sanded the next step is to apply a second coat of a contrasting colour, this also needs to be watered down to a approximately a 50% - 50% mix, with this coat you need to paint the entire piece of furniture. Once the paint is dry you need to sand, leaving as much or as little paint on the furniture as you prefer to reveal the colour underneath. Once sanded you then stain the furniture using a wood stain in the colour of your choice for a traditional feel. Once dry you can then apply a clear estapol or a wax to give you a shiny finish. Changing the handles can also give you that vintage look.

**And there you have it. A day before it was pristine, new and boring. Now it's a beautifully distressed, aged and appealing.**

Watch for future useful fact sheets in coming weeks.



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