

How to Découpage a Pretty Planter

Découpage is a decorative art form with roots stretching back to ancient Chinese and Siberian paper-cutting traditions, later evolving in Europe through lacquered furniture inspired by Asian designs. By the 17th and 18th centuries, it became popular among both artisans and aristocrats, including figures such as Marie Antoinette and Mary Delany, who created intricate paper artworks. Originally used as a cheaper alternative to painted masterpieces, découpage flourished across Europe, especially during the Victorian era, when collage-style decorations became fashionable. The art involves cutting and layering paper images onto surfaces, often finished with varnish, and it continues to evolve today as a creative and versatile craft. Découpage pots can be great for decorating your home as well as for gifting.



You will need:

- 1 terracotta pot (and base)
- Pot sealer
- White acrylic paint
- Napkins, 2 to 3 depending upon their size
- Soft brushes - 1 small and thin and one medium
- Water in a jar
- Modge Podge small amount in a plastic container
- Rust Oleum

Directions

1. Clean your pot
2. Paint your planter inside and out.
3. The planter won't take long too dry. When it is drying, you can begin to prepare the napkin to découpage.
4. Open your napkin and separate the layers of the napkin. Be sure to use only one layer of the napkin. You can toss the other layers.
5. Lie the napkin flat and apply hairspray. Allow to dry.
6. Find the part of the decorative napkin that you would like to use. Gently tear the napkin into smaller, manageable pieces. Use a thin wet paintbrush to mark where you would like to tear, and then tear gently along the watermarks.
7. Working in small sections, apply scant amounts of Modge Podge to the area of the pot, using a medium brush. Gently lay the piece of napkin on the pot.
8. Then, add a little more Mod Podge on top of the napkin to adhere it to the pot.
9. Work around the pot, adhering the napkins to the raw parts of the pot, taking care to overlap the napkin with the already applied napkins and not leave any gaps.
10. When you have finished, let it completely dry. Then, give the pot one more coat of Modge Podge to seal it.

11. When dry, you can then apply Rust Oleum.