

Building a Terra Cotta Pot Bird Bath



Step 1

Carefully stack pots from largest to smallest on top of each other. Draw a line with a pencil around the rim of the pot where it meets the next pot. This is your indicator for the location of any artwork you plan to paint on the point. It also ensures all artwork will be visible!



Step 2

Seal the insides of the pots with the oil-based polyurethane. Apply 2-3 coats for even coverage and a lasting seal. Let the polyurethane dry completely. Do not seal the inside of the saucer with polyurethane; the sealant may harm birds that use the bird bath.

Step 3

Paint the pots with the weather resistant paint. Stencil designs may be added to enhance the outside appearance of the terra cotta pot. After the paint is dry, apply 2 or 3 coats of water-based polyurethane to the outside surface of the pots. Ensure the water based polyurethane is completely dry before handling the clay pots. Allow the pots to dry.

Step 4

Turn the saucer over onto a smooth surface. Apply liquid nails construction adhesive to the perimeter of the terra cotta pots. Place the small terra cotta pot on top of the saucer. Press gently to ensure a firm contact is made. Allow the saucer and the terra cotta pot to dry overnight.

Step 5

Carefully stack the pots from largest to smallest. Place on a firm surface such as a concrete patio.

Helpful Project Tips

- Use water based polyurethane to seal the outside of the pots once painted. Oil based polyurethane may yellow the surface to the paint color once dry.
- Bring your terra cotta during cold or winter months to keep it from cracking.



Things You'll Need:

- One of each, 12", 14" and 16" terra cotta flower pots
- Oil based polyurethane
- Water based polyurethane
- Liquid Nails Construction Adhesive
- One-20" clay saucer
- Paintbrushes
- Paint colors of your choice, weather-resistance



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