

Vintage sign



You will need:

Access to a computer/inkjet printer, piece of salvaged wood, white matt paint, black acrylic paint, paint brush, fine paint brush, sandpaper, twine/small nails (optional)

Instructions:



1/ Lightly sand your wood if it's too rough

2/ Distress the wood to your liking - eg add a couple of empty nail holes then bang wood with claw of hammer. This part is optional.



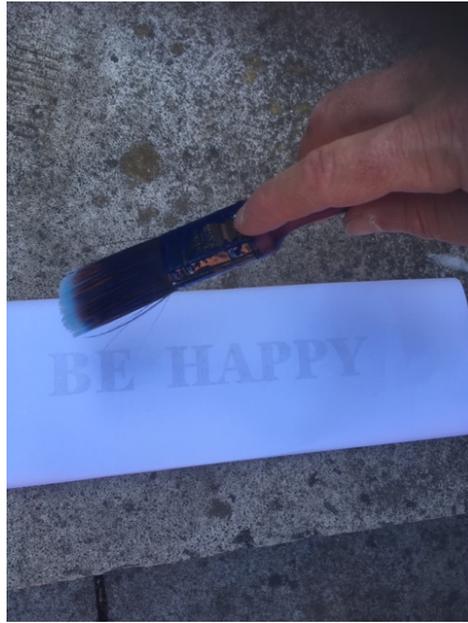
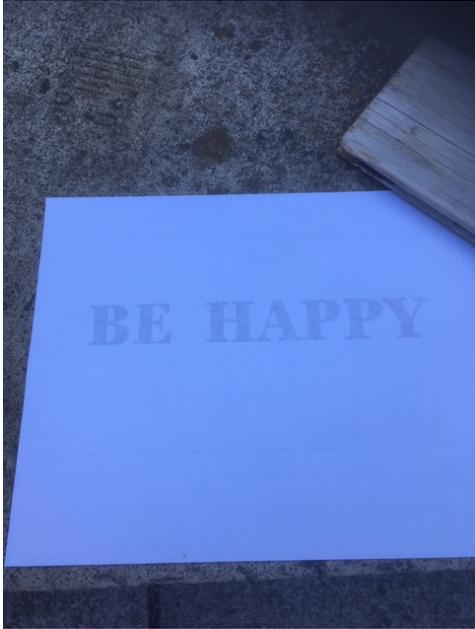
3/ Next, add a light coat of white matt paint, not applying it neatly or even painting the sides - just the front.

4/ Put the wood to one side to dry completely



5/ Using your computer, choose a word/short phrase and a font you want to put on your sign and enlarge it to a size that will fit on the piece of wood you have.

6/ Flip it backwards ie a mirror image - if you are not sure how to do this, there are plenty of tutorials online to talk you through - and print out



7/ Turn your piece of paper over so that the ink is face down on your wood, and you can faintly read the word/phrase through the paper - position paper so word is centred on piece of wood

8/ A good trick is to crease bottom top of paper on edges of wood so it doesn't move around

9/ Wet your paint brush and brush it across the word - don't make it too sopping wet or the ink will just run and spoil the effect- 2/3 brushes across should do the trick

10/ You can then use a felt pen lid to burnish the letters - horizontally and vertically - to transfer as much of the ink onto the wood. Don't move the paper until you've completed this part. However, I missed out this part and it worked just as well.



11/Once you lift off the paper, you should be able to read your word/phrase on the wood - let the wood dry out completely

12/ You can leave it looking like this if you want a faded look. Or you may want to use a fine brush/black acrylic paint to go over letters and make them stand out more

13/ If you have other colours available, you can always add your own small painted details to the sign - this is fun and makes your sign completely unique.



14/ Once all the paint has dried, again using the sandpaper lightly rub the sign so that you remove some of the paint and even lettering to create that wonderful vintage look



15/ As I want my sign to remain out in the garden, I also treated it with a wood oil to give it more protection from moisture. Clear, matt varnish would be good for this too.

16/ If you wish to hang up your sign, then nail or staple twine to back of sign

HAVE LOTS OF FUN BEING CREATIVE!