

# Make chalk paint

Sometimes things are so small they're of no use at all.

Stop looking at your little brother like that – I was talking about chalks!

Yes, when you've used them so often they're just a little stub, it can be tempting to throw them away, but don't! Because old ends of coloured chalks are perfect for recycling as chalk paint.

Begin by sorting your old chalks into colours. Now put all of one colour into the plastic bag, and place it inside an old towel. Take it outside and then take your hammer or mallet (which is when your parents start looking super nervous) and bash the towel. Unfold it every now and then to check on the chalk and keep going until it has been turned into dust. Now you can place it in an old container – an old muffin tin is perfect – and move onto the next colour.

## YOU WILL NEED:

OLD COLOURED CHALKS, THICK PLASTIC BAG, OLD TOWEL, HAMMER OR RUBBER Mallet, OLD CONTAINER SUCH AS A MUFFIN TIN, WATER IN A JUG, OLD TEASPOON, PAINTBRUSHES

When you've made your dust, hand the hammer or mallet back to your parents so they can stop panicking. Now dribble a little water into each dust-filled compartment of the muffin tin, or your containers, and mix it carefully with a teaspoon until nice and smooth and not too thin – in fact it should look and feel very much like paint.

Now you're ready to start chalk painting outside, ideally on a nice clear and smooth surface like a path or driveway. If you want to stop the colours mixing, it's best to use a different paintbrush for each one. And it's a good idea to keep a small jug of water close to hand as the chalk paint can dry out quite quickly – especially in hot, sunny weather. And maybe keep a nice long, cool drink of lemonade close to hand as well – just so you don't dry out either.



**Tip: If you don't have chalks, you can mix a cup and a half of cornflour with a cup of water, divide it into a muffin tin and add food colouring to each. This is particularly good for splatter painting.**

