

B is for Birdhouse, Beehive and Bear

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If you want a birdhouse container or a birdhouse to hang, this project will give you many options.



Supplies

Birdhouse

Dried, cured and cleaned birdhouse gourd or pear shaped gourd. The ones pictured above are approximately 9" tall and pear shaped 7" tall

Beehive Container

Egg shaped gourd, the one pictured is approximately 14" tall and 10" wide

Sand paper

Mini hand jigsaw

½" eye screw to hang birdhouse

Raw hide or jute to hang birdhouse.

Apple Barrel Paint:

White paint black

Kings Gold golden brown

Nutmeg brown burnt sienna

Burnt umber antique white

Delta Ceramcoat Exterior/Interior Varnish

Paint Brushes

1" flat brush

½" flat brush

medium round brush

small round brush

small detail brush

Birdhouse

Use a quarter as a pattern to draw around for the hole in the birdhouse.(or refer to the bird house hole size chart). Cut the hole with the mini hand jigsaw, sand the cut area and clean out the seeds and pulp.

Use a nail or Philips screwdriver to poke holes in the bottom of the birdhouse for drainage.

Remove the stem so that you can attach the ½" eye screw in the top.

With the 1" flat brush ,basecoat white, let dry and then base coat with king's gold.

Beehive Container

Please refer to the pattern for drawing the line.

Use a pencil and draw a line around the top quarter of the birdhouse container, at the front of the container, slope the line up and down, then around. Cut on the line. Clean out the inside of



the gourd with a scallop shell or a scraper, and sand smooth. Please use a respirator to cover your mouth and nose, as well as safety glasses to protect eyes when cutting.

* a note about sanding the inside, I was never a big one to care about getting things smooth, I am a person who cleans out as much as I can , then rinse with water then paint. If you want it smooth then you will need to sand until you achieve the desired results.

With a 1" flat brush , base coat white, inside and outside the whole gourd. Do the same with King's gold, you will probably need 2 coats of King's gold.

Painting the lines on both projects.

To paint the lines straight around the gourd you may want to take a measuring tape lengthwise and mark off at every inch, do the same on the other side and then connect your lines around the gourd.

Load brush with half king's gold and half nutmeg brown and paint stripes all the way around the gourd like in picture. Use the flat brush and touch it with Kings Gold and a touch of white to highlight in between stripes.



Beehive Container & Birdhouse

Please refer to the pattern to pencil in your opening. Paint burnt umber in the opening of the beehive and around the hole on the birdhouse.

Use your 1/2" flat brush and shade 1/2" out around the brown opening with king's gold and nutmeg brown, creating a lip around the brown opening.



You will then use your frayed brush with burnt sienna on your palate along with king's gold, burnt umber and nutmeg brown.

You will touch your brush in all these colors, alternating colors and bouncing your brush on the brown, as I've done in the above picture, to get the honeycomb look. Use the lighter gold to highlight the area but make it rich in various colors.

Birdhouse & Beehive Container Honey Pot and Sign



Paint the honey pot and the sign with antique white, using your 1/2" flat or medium round brush.

Use your 1/2" or 1/4" flat brush to shade around the honey pot with antique white and golden brown.

Paint the inside of the pot with burnt umber.

Paint the sign above the opening with ivory white, load the brush with golden brown and antique white and shade around the sign as you did for the pots.

Use the detail brush and black paint to paint in the words, 'Honey Pot' and 'Honey for sale'. Paint a nail and hanger on the sign. You can use black and white to mix a gray for the nail and use black for the little hanger of the sign. (see picture on previous page)

Beehive Container Bear

Refer to the pattern page to draw in the bear and pot. Paint the bear with Golden brown.



Now using the same procedure you used with the other honey pots. Load a 1/2" flat brush with golden brown and antique white and shade around the pot. For the bear you will use the same palate of colors

you used for your honey comb, burnt sienna, nutmeg brown, golden brown and kings gold, you will also be adding some touches of antique white for highlights. Use your frayed brush and dip into your burnt umber and nutmeg brown and brown sienna, you will be painting wispy strokes to make the hair. Use the darker colors around the line of the nose on the face and around the under arms, also around the honey pot and feet. Dip into your golden brown and king's gold and fill in on the bear's fur using the frayed brush and wispy strokes. Highlight with touches of antique white and kings gold.

*note I am a fusser; I fuss and fuss until I am pleased. Stand back from the piece to view it. Save and use those old frayed brushes because they are so perfect for hair and fur.

Beehive Container cutting.

Use your small detail brush to paint in the black eyes, nose and line for mouth. Put a touch of white on the eyes and nose.

Bees

Refer to the picture for the bees, you can place the bees any where you would like all over the beehive. Mix your kings gold with a touch of white to make a lighter yellow using your medium round brush. Paint in the oval part of the bees body. Then take the same brush and mix some gray and paint in the round head. Use white



to paint in the wings. After the paint dries get your detail brush and paint in the black stripes and the stinger on the tail and small dots for eyes the black antenna's, legs and mouth. Then dot the eyes with an even smaller highlighting dot on the eyes. Try to vary the look of your bees.

Sign your name on the bottom of your pieces. Finish each piece with Delta Ceramcoat Exterior/Interior Varnish . Brush on one coat , let dry and add one more coat.

Attach a rawhide or jute cord to hang the bird-house.

