

PRODUCTS USED

Styrofoam (RF35077) Foamcoat (FT03005) Black acrylic paint (FO10700) White acrylic paint (FO10701) Grey spray paint (FS13002) Knife (TK10069) UHU Por (AP00022) PVA (AP00037) Dirty down (FT20404) Green Texture (LG30073)



First of all choose a shape for your tombstone and sketch the shape onto a piece of **Styrofoam**. Then use a **knife** to carefully cut around the shape and remove the excess parts.

Once you have cut the shape you can then start to make it look more realistic. By cutting out small bits, smoothing edges and scuffing the surface you can 'age' the tombstone. Then add detailing such as a cut a ledge, an epitaph or carvings.

Once you are happy with the look of your tombstone you can seal and strengthen. One great product to use for this is called **Foamcoat**.

Foamcoat not only strengthens and seals but can also be used to add texture. Once dry it can be sanded and carved. You can also start to add colour at this stage by adding a small amount of **Black Acrylic** to the **Foamcoat**. Ensure you have completely covered the **Styrofoam** before proceeding.

Once the **Foamcoat** is fully dry it's time to paint the Tombstone. Apply a base coat using a **Grey spray paint**. You can hand paint using acrylic but it's easier to achieve a stone effect with spray paint.

Leave time to dry before adding the detail. This is best accomplished by using the dry brush technique. Add paint to you brush then remove most before applying in layers. This gives a lighter and more realistic finish. Use this approach to highlight the edges, ledges and any other detailing.

To create moss effects, dry brush with green paint then add small amounts of **PVA**, sprinkle with **Green texture** and gently pad down with your fingers. Once dry, dust off any remaining texture. Continue using these techniques until you are happy with overall effect.

Extra finishing touches

Make a base for it to stand on (we used a thick piece of wood). Use the off cuts of **Styrofoam** to make the mounds at the base of the stone, secure using **UHU Por**.

Use dark brown Dirty Down aging spray to add an authentic look to your tomb stone. Add more **green texture** to create further moss effects.



(we now stock dark grey styrofoam - a better option for the base colour)



(back)