

AN A6 MOULD AND DECKLE FOR NON-WOODWORKERS (not pretty but it works)

You will need

4 pieces of 19mm sq hardwood 186mm long + 4 pieces of 19mm sq hardwood 105mm long

8 38 mm flat corner brackets and screws. Buy stainless steel screws shorter than the depth of the wood to replace those that come with the brackets.

1 wire insect screen 250 x 180 (not fibreglass). Brass wire is better.

Plus Exterior wood glue and some type of waterproof glue, pliers, Phillips screwdriver, set square, sandpaper, wood stapler, two thin wooden sticks, clamps, polyurethane, craft knife, straight edge, masking tape.

Steps

1. Draw two templates on paper 186 x 143mm. Sand wood and ensure the cuts in the wood are square. Lay 2 x 186mm and 2 x 105mm lengths of wood on each template and glue with wood glue, using set square to confirm right angles. Clamp. Allow to dry. **See 1.**

2. Lay corner brackets on outer edges of both frames, mark, drill and screw. Don't screw into the join and take care with depth of drill hole. One of these is now the deckle and one the mould. **See 2.**

3. Staple mesh to non-bracket side of mould. Hold spatulas with pliers either side of the mesh, put under gentle tension and staple opposite side. Repeat for other sides ensuring mesh is taut. **See 3.**

4. Trim wire screen just inside edge of mould using craft knife and a straight edge. Ensure no wires are protruding. **See 3.**
5. Run tape around edge to ensure no glue gets on the exposed part of the mesh. Apply waterproof glue around top of screen on all surfaces where wire is stapled to wood to fill in the mesh evenly and ensure finished surface is flat and smooth. **See 4 & 5.**

6. Coat wood (but not wire) with polyurethane. **See 5.**

