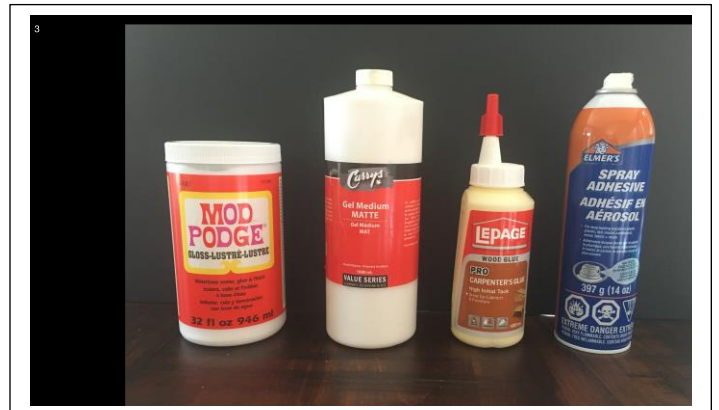


Hedges have many uses. They can simply demarcate 2 adjoining areas or act as a decorative feature in your vignette . Here I will illustrate an easy way to make hedge that can be used over and over again.

2.To start I used those fibrous scrubbing pads, they come in many colours but green ones may be used without any additional painting requirement. Cut into equal sized strips so 2, or more, can be glued together for your hedge.



3.You will require some adhesive, I tried several but found wood glue is too thin to be practical. The thicker adhesive like Mod Podge and Matt Medium are easier to apply for an even coating without soaking into the pad. Spray adhesive also works very well, just ensure when the adhesive is applied it comes out as a smooth layer.



4.You will also need some flocking of some sort to accent your scrubbing pads. Here are a few that I used, from the left Woodland Scenics blended turf, 2 bottles of flocking from Michaels, Super Leaf from Scenic Express, the latter is usually found in Model Railway stores,



5.There is also foliage from Mountain Pacific Scenics of Calgary, they only do mail order business no stores. Be sure to check their website. And last but not least some homemade flocking made of different coloured sawdust.



6. Lay out strips of scrubbing pad, that will be glued together, place a strip of wire in the middle of one. The wire I use is longer than the pad and has a hook bent on one end allowing it to be hung to dry once the flocking is applied. I recommend using between 18- 22 Ga wire for this, you want it heavy enough to bend and hold its shape. Then apply sufficient amount of glue and press the 2 scrubbing pad pieces together.



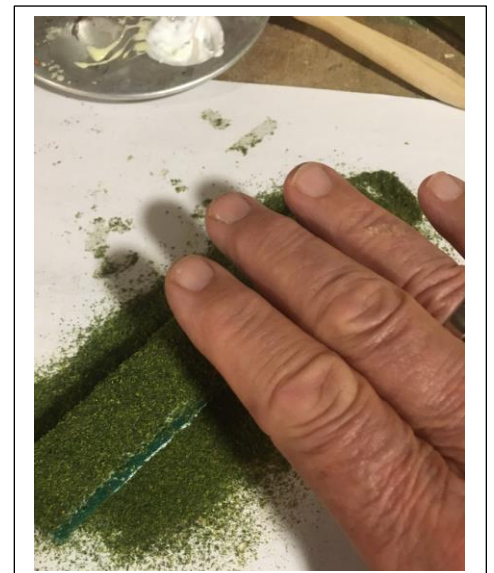
7. Use a weight to compress the scrubbing pad pieces together while the glue dries. Taking care when gluing the pieces together will result in less trimming later in order to achieve a smooth seam.



8. If you elect to paint the glue onto your hedge material, a stiff brush is necessary for a smooth even coat, so I trimmed the long bristles on this hobby brush.



9. Once the adhesive is applied, flood all areas with the flocking and press gently making sure you have good adhesion all over. Now grabbing the wire end gently tap to remove some of the excess flocking and hang up to dry. Once dry you can gently tap to remove the remaining unglued flocking before snipping off the wire end.





10. With this piece I had used spray adhesive, unfortunately the adhesive came out in puddles, unknown to me, resulting in clumps of flocking on the hedge surface. Generally speaking, I thought the spray adhesive worked best. The hedge was easy to bend and held its shape. The downside is the flocking will continue to shed unless a light sealer coat of say varnish, for example, is applied. The pieces that had brushed on glue made a more robust hedge. This proved useful with repeated handling of the hedge pieces.



11. As you can see any number of hedge varieties can be achieved with various flocking materials.



12. You can pick your flocking to compliment your vignette.

