

Creative Bedroom Ideas

If you fancy taking a creative hands-on approach to the design and content of your child's bedroom, **Andrea Maflin** has some amazing ideas for unique bedrooms that are full of character.



If decorating a child's room has ever presented a problem, 'Children's Rooms' by Andrea Maflin is the book for you. Full of imaginative ideas for themed rooms, projects are aimed at children from birth to eight years old, from charming, warm nurseries for babies to inviting retreats for younger tots. Be inspired by this style bible and it could mean your child will never make a fuss at bedtime again. A young child's room has to be practical but that doesn't mean it has to be dull. Fun and exciting interiors ideas explored in 'Children's Rooms' include themes on how to decorate your child's space, from Boho Chic and Fairies, to Sweeties and Seaside. Detailed room plans for each idea are accompanied by advice on how to achieve the look, what colours to choose, and ideas that will add a personal touch to your child's room. Alongside the major design ideas are projects that will help you customise the room with gorgeous trimmings and playthings, from pillows, quilts, building bricks, soft toys, murals and much more. 'Children's Rooms' by Andrea Maflin is published by CICO Book sat £16.99, hardback, and available from all good bookshops or call **01256-302699**.

How to make a... Wallpaper Mural

Creating a wallpaper mural using several different wallpapers adds artistic style to the simplest room. These wallpapers have designs with an organic feel, so an imaginary landscape that doesn't over-power the nursery works beautifully with the papers and in the space.



- You will need:**
- Wallpapers
 - Wallpaper Scissors
 - Pasting Table
 - Wallpaper Paste
 - Damp Cloth
 - Acrylic Jewels
 - Contact Adhesive

1. Cut shapes from the wallpapers.
2. Lay each shape face down on the pasting table and brush the back of it with wallpaper paste. Stick the shape to the wall, smoothing it out with your hands. Wipe over the shape with the damp cloth to remove any excess paste.
3. Pick acrylic jewels in colours to complement the papers.
4. Put a dab of contact adhesive on the back of each jewel and stick them to the wallpapers to add detail and highlight areas.





How to make...

Building Blocks

Building blocks are always guaranteed playtime favourites and are so easy to make and decorate. These wooden blocks are the perfect educational toy and are sufficiently durable to last for years. Just make sure the blocks are not small enough for a curious baby to put in her mouth.

Tip: Building blocks are classic toys for younger children because they are simple and educational. Most children devise any number of games to play with them and each one helps to develop hand-eye co-ordination. What an achievement when the stack stays standing!

You will need

A length of plain bannister rail
Saw
Fine sandpaper
Damp cloth

PVA Glue
Water
Paintbrush
Picture design
Water-based acrylic or varnish

1. Cut the blocks from the bannister rail and sand the rough sides and edges until they feel smooth and silky to the touch.
2. Remove any dust with a damp cloth. Paint the cut sides with a solution of two parts PVA glue to one part water. Leave to dry.
3. Choose your own designs to decorate the blocks. Photocopy them, preferably in colour, to fit your blocks, and cut them out. You could use several colours and designs on each block.
4. To fix the designs to the blocks, use the PVA glue mixture as before. Leave each side of the block to dry before moving on to the next one - it won't take long. Once the blocks have been covered with designs, paint them with a water-based, water proof varnish. Apply two coats, allowing them to dry inbetween.

