Make pen pots from old tins

Use a recycled can to create a cute addition to your room.



TOP TIP

Save different-size tins to organise all your desk items: taller tins for markers, pens and pencils, and small cans for things like highlighters or scissors.

LONG LASTING

A single pencil can be used to write up to 45,000 words.

WARNING!

Ask an adult to check the tin edges are not sharp.

What you need

- Recycled tins (remove the label and clean out first)
- Scrap cardboard, such as from an old box or package
- Scissors
- Glue
- Paintbrush
- Acrylic craft paint



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Every year people throw away a lot of waste. In fact, in 2023 UK households binned 25.9 million tonnes of it. That included 5.4 million tonnes of paper and cardboard. The average UK home also uses around 600 food cans per year. There is a way you can reuse these items to create a cool organiser for your room or desk.

These cute animal pen pots are made from recycled materials, and are a great way to brighten up your bedroom. You don't have to just keep stationery in them – you can use them to store lots of things like collectable cards, stickers, a hairbrush or even snacks.



Instructions

1. Think about the type of animal you'd like to create. To make an animal head, cut a thin semi-circle from the cardboard. Cut out a head for each tin you have and check that it fits round the tin.
2. Glue the heads onto the top part of the tins. Allow the glue to dry.
3. Cut out cardboard ears, snouts and arms for your creatures. Glue the shapes to the tins and allow the glue to dry.
4. Paint the animals however you like. You can paint the main colour first, allow it to dry, and then add details like lighter spots, eyes, markings and noses.

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SCAN ME