

Bag a Wall

- Easy to follow step-by-step guide
- Important and handy tips
- Materials check list
- Project cost estimator



Before you begin your exciting new project, please read through this entire pamphlet carefully and estimate and assemble all the materials you will need for the project and gather your tools and equipment together. Refer to the checklist and estimating form on the back panel of the pamphlet to assist in this preparation. If you require any help, please don't hesitate to speak with one of Colli's experienced trade team.

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DIY Wall Bagging made easy

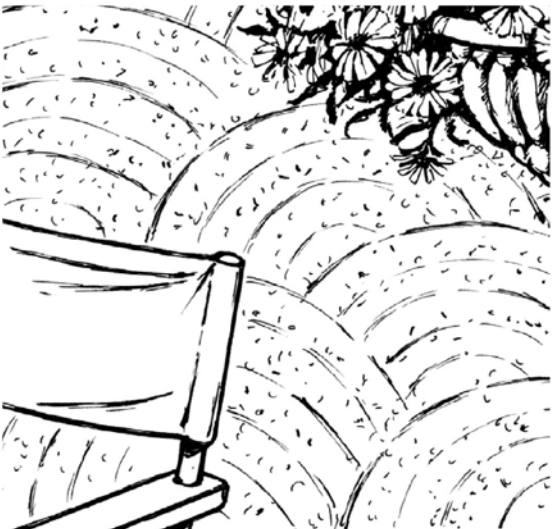
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You can bag a masonry wall

Give your walls a facelift

Bring a slice of romantic Tuscany to your home with this simple technique that will give your external brick walls an exciting facelift. 'Bagging' is a technique that utilises a cement render mix to create colourful and creative textures that evoke the spirit of the Mediterranean.

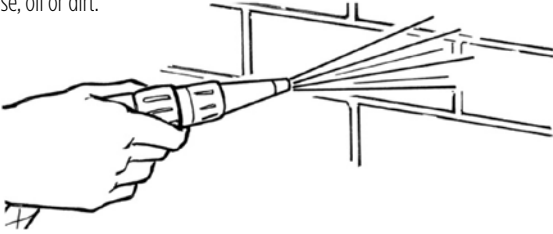
Colli is pleased to bring you this easy to follow DIY brochure, which will provide you with the basic techniques for bagging external brick walls using either a pre-mixed render or one that you can prepare yourself.



Preparing the wall

We recommend that you do not attempt this project during very hot and dry weather as the render will dry out too quickly. Instead, wait until you have suitable weather and be sure not to begin until the wall is out of direct sunshine.

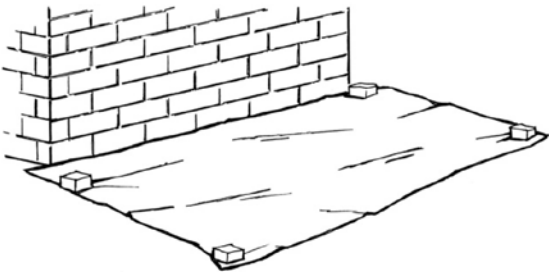
The first step to a good bagged finish is a clean working surface, so give the wall a hose down and make sure to remove all loose or flaky surfaces by using a stiff broom or wire brush if necessary. Also, ensure that the wall is free from paint, grease, oil or dirt.



If you are bagging an older brick wall, you'll need to check the condition of the mortar between the bricks and remove any loose mortar that you find. Before beginning the bagging process, allow the wall to dry slightly so that there is no surface water to interfere with the bond between render and wall.



Remember to protect the base of the wall by laying out your plastic sheeting or old boards to catch any of the render mix that will inevitably be dropped during the application.



Mixing the render

There are two alternative ways to make a good bagging render mix. You can either follow the simple recipe below, or simply buy a pre-mixed render product from your nearest Colli store and mix according to the manufacturer's instructions.

Assuming that your wall is made of standard brick or concrete, the best bagging render mixture is to measure by volume: 1 part off-white cement, half part lime and three parts clean plasterer's sand plus some bonding agent such as Bycol or Bond 'n Seal. Remember to read the instructions carefully and use the bonding agent according to the manufacturer's specifications.

The easiest way to ensure that you can repeat the exact bagging mixture is to use a standard plastic bucket as your basic measure. Fill your bucket with each ingredient to the very top and scrape the excess away, leaving a flat surface. Repeat for each ingredient until you have enough material to mix a batch.



If you want to mix small amounts of render, we recommend that you mix it by hand in a wheelbarrow as follows:

- Measure all the dry ingredients into a barrow and mix with a shovel until a uniform colour is achieved.
- Mound the dry material and form a crater in the centre of the mound.
- Slowly add water to the crater whilst turning the material into the centre.
- Mound the material again and repeat the process until you achieve a smooth, creamy mix.

Please Note: If you intend to use a cement oxide colouring pigment, remember to follow the manufacturer's recommendations when adding colouring oxides to the render mix.



Bagging the wall

Before you get stuck into the render application, put on a pair of heavy duty rubber gloves to protect your hands from the render mix. Dip a dense, damp sponge or a balled up piece of damp hessian into the mix and apply to the wall.

For the first coat, it is important to concentrate on getting an even coverage, making sure that all the gaps between the bricks are filled. Once the first coat is complete, you'll need to leave it for 24 hours to cure. Now, apply the second coat using the same technique. You may even need a third coat if the base brickwork is very dark.

With your final coating, you should try to use a sweeping motion with your sponge or hessian. This will leave a texture of rough arcs on the wall and will create a more rustic and traditional look. If you are looking for a smoother finish, try using a dense sponge as the applicator and finish the surface with light, even strokes.



Now for the finishing touches

To complete the job, you'll need to ensure that all your window surrounds and other hard to reach bits are well covered. If you chose not to add a pigment to the render mix, remember that you will need to leave the wall for at least seven days before painting.

Alternatively, for a more weathered and natural look, you may decide to leave the wall without any further treatment.

Once complete, you can enhance the atmosphere and highlight your new achievement by adding decorative ceramic wall hangings, wall pots or whatever takes your fancy.

Project Cost Estimator

Materials Description	Quantity	Cost
Off-White Cement		
Plaster Lime		
Butterfly Clips		
Plasterer's Sand		
Bonding Agent (eg Bycol or Bond 'n Seal)		
Ready Mixed Alternative: Melcann Render It		
Cement Oxide (optional colouring)		
Equipment		
Shovel		
Wheelbarrow		
Dense Sponge or Hessian Bag		
Heavy Duty Rubber Gloves		
Old boards or heavy plastic sheeting		
Total		

All the materials you need for this job are available at Colli, your DIY specialist.

Disclaimer: Please note that this brochure is designed as a guide only - if you have any queries, please consult one of our Colli Team Members for further assistance. The information provided in this brochure is done so on the understanding that Colli Timber and Hardware is not liable for any loss or damage which is suffered or incurred, for any personal injury or property damage as a result of using the information contained in the Colli DIY Projects brochure. Colli Timber and Hardware advises you to call in a qualified tradesperson, such as an electrician or plumber, where expert advice and services are required.

Note: Please ensure you comply with local council laws or regulations before undertaking any DIY project.

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