



Smoke & mirrors

Embellish a mirror frame
with gemstones

Created by **Kendyl Middelbeek**.
Photography by **Melanie Jenkins**.



Rachel Carly dish, Cathy Pope choker, Ingrid Starnes perfume and Morgan Haines plate (opposite) all from Tessuti; other items stylist's own (painting by Alex Scott).

Small crystal chips are cheap and work well to fill in any gaps between larger stones!

YOU WILL NEED

- White or silver spray paint
- MDF backing board, 3cm larger in diameter than the mirror
- Hanging hooks and metal chain or strong wire
- Pencil, ruler, scissors, Blu-Tack, large piece of paper
- Frameless round mirror, around 30-40cm in diameter
- Selleys Liquid Nails adhesive or similar
- Tumbled gemstones and crystal chips (I used rose quartz)
- Hot-glue gun

1 Spray MDF circle on both sides with two coats of paint. Once dry, measure, position and secure hooks on the back, then attach the wire or chain between them for hanging on the wall.

2 Position mirror on the front of the MDF so it sits evenly in the centre. Draw around it with a pencil.

3 Place mirror on piece of paper, and draw around it again. Cut out paper circle and affix it to the front of the mirror with Blu-Tack. This is to protect its surface while you're embellishing.

4 Apply small blobs of strong adhesive inside your circle outline on the MDF. Carefully position mirror over pencilled circle and press down firmly to adhere the two pieces together.

5 Once the adhesive has set, the fun part begins. Use gemstones or crystals of varying shapes and sizes to decorate the frame around the mirror, applying them with the hot-glue gun. Overlap and layer them to conceal the edge of the MDF. Variations of the same hue work best – amethyst or smoky quartz would also look good. (Etsy.com and crystalpeople.co.nz are good places to stock up on your gemstones.) Remove the paper and Blu-Tack, hang your mirror and admire yourself and your handiwork!

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