

HOW TO MAKE : NOONGAR COUNTING BLOCKS



ABOUT

When we learned to count from kenya to maar-maar we were fascinated by the embedded maths within the structure and instantly thought of a traditional Montessori Number Rods, a learning tool that helps children spatially visualise numbers.

This block set helps children (and adults) to understand the structure of the Noongar number system and is a tactile and easy way to learn how to count to from kenya to maar-maar.

Noongar

MATERIALS

- 1x 30x30mm square piece of wood, at least 1.7m long
- the piece we purchased was a 2.4m length in pine
- 1x Drawstring Calico Bag
- 1x Can MTN Gesso Primer
- 2x Stylefile Markers in your chosen colours (for decorating the bag)
- 10x MTN Water Based Spraypaint in your chosen colours
- 1x MTN Water Based Paint Marker in your chosen colour (should contrast all paint colours)
- 1x MTN Water Based Spraypaint Clear Matte Varnish

CUT THE WOOD

- 2x 30mm in length (kenya)
- 6x 60mm in length (koodjal)
- 2x 90mm in length (daambart)
- 7x 150mm in length (maar)

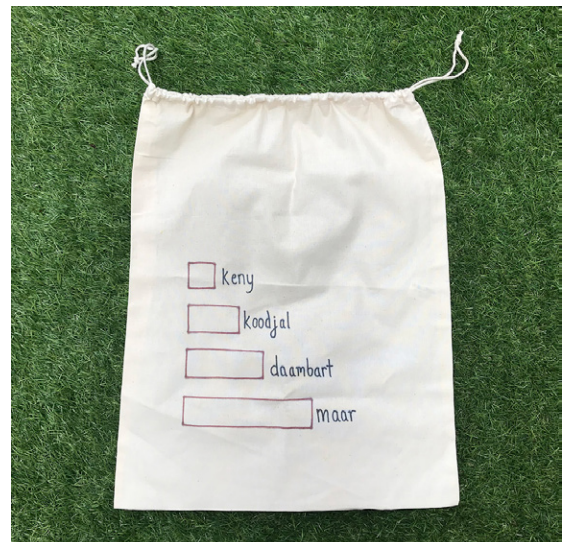
Sand any rough edges ready for painting.

DECORATE THE BAG

- Slip a piece of cardboard in the bag to prevent the markers bleeding through to the back side
- Using the Stylefile Markers trace 1 of each of the 4 length blocks and write the corresponding name
 - do this before you paint the blocks incase you get any marker on them
 - we used dark brown to trace the blocks and black to write the names

INSTRUCTIONS

- Print the last page of this PDF
- Cut in half and tack with glue back to back
- Laminate



PRIME THE BLOCKS

Paint the raw wood with a primer to seal the wood and prevent the coloured paint soaking in and looking uneven. We used MTN Gesso Primer which is a thick covering water based primer with no harsh solvents.

PAINT THE BLOCKS

You will need to put the puzzle together and paint each number in a different colour. Some numbers are created with 1 block, and some are made up of 2 or 3 blocks. We have listed the numbers below with the MTN Water Based Spraypaint colours we used and the block sizes needed.

Keny - Titanium Light - 30

Koodjal - Grey Green Dark - 60

Daambart - Raw Umber - 90

Koodjal-Koodjal - Grey Green Pale - 60+60

Maar - Yellow Ochre - 150

Maar-Keny - Raw Umber Deep - 150+30

Maar-Koodjal - Naples Yellow Deep - 150+60

Maar-Daambart - Grey Green - 150+90

Maar-Koodjal-Koodjal - Burnt Umber - 150+60+60

Maar-Maar - Grey Green Deep - 150+150



MARK YOUR STARTING POINTS

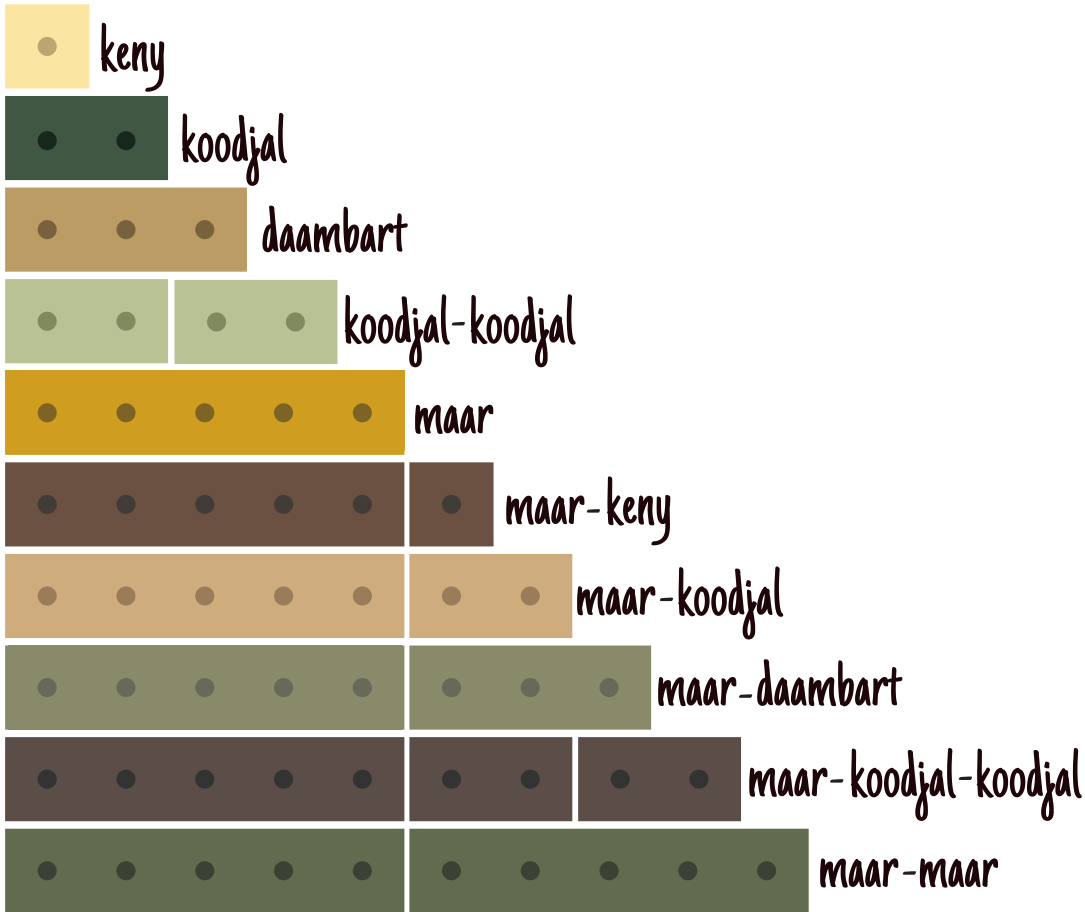
- Put the blocks together as per the instructions and diagram on the next page
- With your paint marker, mark a visible dot on the left end of each row

VARNISH YOUR BLOCKS

We added a final coat of varnish to help protect our block set. We used MTN Water Based Spraypaint in Matte Varnish.

THE BUTCHER SHOP

WWW.THEBUTCHERSHOP.COM.AU



Instructions

- Order the blocks into piles of the same size
- Use the bag to learn the name for each block
- Match the blocks that are the same colour (so you have 10 different piles)
- If there is more than 1 block in the pile join them together to make 1 length
- Order the lines of colour from shortest at the top to longest bottom, taking care to have any dots on the ends of the blocks visible on the left
- Now, remembering the names you learnt for each block, count from keny to maar-maar