

 makeover

# Vintage revival

Bring an old beauty  
back to life for the  
cost of a tin of paint

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Ready for the dump? The sunlounger had definitely seen better days.

HOW TO

## Revive a sunlounger

**T**his western red cedar sunlounger had been neglected, slowly deteriorating over 30 years of being exposed to the elements.

The glue and copper nails had let go so it was literally falling apart, and one hardwood wheel axle was badly worn. Surprisingly, the cedar was still in solid condition, which made it worth putting in the effort of a makeover.

It cost just \$43 for the paint and another \$10 for materials including abrasive paper and screws – much less than the cost of buying a stylish new sunlounger.



### 3 Sand the components

Every component of the sunlounger was sanded with 80-grit abrasive paper, then 240-grit. Edges were slightly rounded, holes were filled with putty and a small split in the timber was filled with two-part filler before being sanded.



### 6 Complete the chair

The rebated section of the arm was glued with exterior glue then bolted in place through pre-existing holes. The drinks tray was repositioned, wheels relocated on the axles and pins tapped into place.



### 1 Remove the slats

For a thorough restoration it was necessary to remove all the slats, which were prised off with a claw hammer. The flathead copper nails were removed from the slats and the adjustable arms of the back were unbolted from the frame.



### 4 Undercoat and paint

A white, acrylic sealer was brushed onto all components, then a coat of Taubmans AllWeather Gloss Acrylic went on. Even out-of-the-way places were painted to ensure weatherproofing.



### 7 The final coat

Once the chair was back together, all the upper surfaces had another light sand with 240-grit abrasive paper before being given a final coat of paint and left to dry.



### 2 Dismantle the wheels

For easier sanding, the timber wheels were removed by tapping out the tapered locking pin on one side of each axle. The drinks tray was removed from its runners and the aluminium support prop for the back unclipped.



### 5 Re-screw the slats

Slats were repositioned, glued and fixed with 50mm x 8g stainless steel square-drive decking screws. On the back, the top and bottom slats were fixed then checked for square. **TIP** Drill clearance holes through the slats to avoid splitting.



### 8 Finish the job

The length of the base frame and back rest were measured and a cushion bought to match. **TIP** We found this Universal Lounge Cushion in a striped, fade-resistant, water-repellent, polyester fabric at Kmart for \$39.