

# Summer Garden Patio

By Fran Casselman

## Structure:

- #2384 Infinite Possibilities Porch (with additional wall and #7039 3/8" Lap Width Clapboard Siding)
- #5032 Traditional Non-Working Window
- #6022 Single French Door (modified; see Crafting Resources)

## Setting:

- #1811 "Astro Turf" Grass Sheet
- #21825 Aged Garden Pavers
- #H8210 1/2" Scale Herringbone Brick Sheet (Border is gray cardboard, detailed with pencil lines)
- #63035 5-Pc. Granite Fieldstone Wall
- #7503 Houseworks Picket Fence\*
- #7504 Houseworks Picket Fence Gates\*
- #7015 Houseworks Fence Posts\*

## Furnishings:

- #77276 Chesapeake Garden Furniture Set
- #70809 San Antonio Outdoor Fireplace
- #64005 Unfinished Picnic Table with Attached Benches
- #36166 Aged Birdbath

## Creatures & Critters:

- #22252 Crow
- #29644 Cardinal
- #23370 Green Snake
- #23398 Black Dachshund
- #22961 Daisy (Relaxing Gray Tabby)
- #23392 Three Black Mice
- #23270 Boo-Boo (Sleeping Cat)

## Flowers, Plants & Planters:

- #988 Two Spring Trees
- #11739 Vine/Ground Cover
- #28015 12 Tiny Pink Roses
- #51125 Al Chandronnait Market Basket
- #999 Six Green Spruce Trees
- #88342 Hosta
- #9711 Climbing Floral Vine
- #23555 Small Blooming Planter Box
- #973 Trio of Pink Bushes
- #964 Pair of 2 1/2"H Evergreen Bushes
- #965 Pair of 1 1/2"H Evergreen Bushes (cut in half to create mound shape)
- #62013 Pink and White Garden Row
- #11914 Pink Rose Arch
- #997 Six Assorted Floral Clusters
- #54025 Pair of Round Baskets
- #22673 Pansy Container Garden
- #298219 Iris, Daffodil and Pansy Instant Garden
- #24133 Large Garden Planter



## Crafty Extras:

**\*Vinegar/Steel Wool Staining Technique For Ageing Wood**  
 In a sealed, nonmetal container, soak a steel wool pad in a pint of plain vinegar (for gray color) or cider vinegar (for rusty gray) for a few days or a week, stirring occasionally. Remove the steel wool and discard; strain the solution through coffee filters or paper towels and store in the original vinegar bottle or other tightly sealable nonmetal container. Test it on unfinished wood; the color is not immediately apparent but will darken over several minutes. Color will be different on different woods. Solution may be diluted (extended) with distilled water.

To use, protect skin, clothing and the work area from spills and splashes; it will stain everything. Plan an absorbent surface such as unprinted newsprint (often used as packing paper) or paper towels to spread out the stained items as they dry. Allowing the solution to dry on the surface, uncovered, creates a mottled finish; covering the wet items with another absorbent layer to blot the solution away gives more even color. Layering items with paper in between is OK. Pour the solution into a container large enough to completely submerge the items you want to stain; recycling a plastic bakery sheet-cake dome works well. Use tongs or wear gloves. Working fairly quickly, submerge the items (several at a time is fine) then move them to the drying area. The color will develop over several minutes and will be different where there are puddles and drips, which can look interesting. Cover with absorbent and blot for more even overall color. Allow to dry thoroughly.

Unused solution may be put back in the bottle and stored for later use.

*Note: If using on assembled but unfinished items, the color will take in glued areas; the glued joints may loosen while the solution is wet but will harden again as it dries.*