

# Filing Cabinet Renewal

(as seen on CBC television's *Living in Ottawa*)

Give an plain old filing cabinet a new lease on life with a textured spray-paint finish.. Here we've used black and red sparkled spray-paint to give our filing cabinet a fresh new life with dramatic effect.

## Materials:

- Drop Cloth
- 4 blocks or bricks to elevate cabinet during spray process
- Filing cabinet
- TSP (*Trisodium phosphate is used as a heavy duty degreaser and all purpose cleaner.*)
- 220 grit sandpaper
- Tack cloth (*Tack cloth is a sticky (or tacky) material used for removing dust from a surface prior to painting.*)
- Painter's tape
- Black sparkled spray paint
- Red sparkled spray paint
- Decal or stencil (optional)



## Method:

1. Protect floor and surrounding areas with drop cloth to prevent overspray from damaging surfaces.
2. Wipe cabinet and drawers with a solution of TSP and water as per package directions.
3. Rinse with clean water.
4. Remove the drawers and drawer handles or inserts from the file cabinet.
5. Elevate filing cabinet on blocks under each corner to prevent cabinet from sticking to drop cloth
6. Gently sand all surfaces to be painted, with sandpaper.
7. Wipe clean with a tack cloth.
8. Mask off areas you want to remain unpainted such as key hole and drawer mechanism with painter's tape.
9. In a well-ventilated area, lightly spray-paint cabinet surfaces, and drawer pulls or inserts with black sparkled spray paint. Let dry. Repeat.
10. Lightly spray the drawer fronts with red sparkled spray paint. Let dry. Repeat.
11. Tape stencil on drawer front, (I printed and cut around Chinese text to create my own stencil) protecting surrounding areas from overspray; then lightly spray 2 coats with black sparkle spray paint..
12. Remove stencil when paint is just dry to the touch and replace drawers in the cabinet. ■