

## Technique 9

### Log Wall



Use Water based varnish, Flowtrol and Acrylic Paint in Burnt Sienna and Yellow Ochre or any colors that you desire. Mix them at a ratio of 3 parts varnish, 2 parts Flowtrol, and 1/2 part acrylic paint. Use one 2" and one-3" inexpensive natural bristle paint brushes. Determine how wide you want your logs and how much chinking you want to show in between. As a rule of thumb, 10" logs look good with 3-4" of chinking between.

Your wall will be painted neutral white. Beginning with a run of chinking, measure down from the ceiling, making pencil marks at 4", (above this row of marks will be the chinking). Next make a row of marks along the wall at 14" down from the top. Within the 10" space between this row and the first row of marks will be the log. Measure down from the row 4" and this will again be a row of chinking. Measure down 10" from that row and this will be another log. Complete the marking until you reach the bottom.

To start your logs, take your yellow ochre paint and a 3" brush and paint a stripe down the center of each 10" wide log space. Be careful not to let the paint run, and try to keep a wet edge as you go along so that you don't have any visible breaks in the log. Finish one log before starting the next. When you are through with all the logs, use the Burnt Sienna and a 2" brush and paint a stripe above and below the yellow, keeping your edges smooth and avoiding any runs. Move down to your next log. When you are done with the logs, you can use a bit of raw umber and sketch in some dark heart wood marks in the centers. You may also wish to shadow them a little by painting raw umber at the edges of the logs.

If you are going to stencil on the logs, you will need to first paint on a coat of gesso as a background for your stencil. For example, the fishing creel looks great on the log wall hanging from the birch shelf. You need to block out all the log color. Gesso is available at art and craft stores and is a heavy white product that works really well. Be sure to let it dry before you start stenciling.