

Welcome to a few before and after images of our journey in converting our garden and home into an unusual decorative space using a number of basic materials and techniques. We hope this will inspire you to try something different regardless of the outcome. **Unauthorised usage of the images are prohibited however feel free to distribute this document on to friends.**



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*A decorative fig
with side stand
and rose quartz
base*



*A fig grown over a
piece of drift wood then
down into a quartz box
whilst allowing the
side roots to extend
further into an
adjacent basin. The
main roots then existed
the central tube into a
rose quartz basin
below.*

*Please read
before continuing*

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**Furthermore,
always seek
qualified guidance
before making any
decision or
utilising any**

The entire process of how we made the above is available at
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Above- two indoor decorative rose quartz lights positioned on weathered wood with resin lighting inside. Both standing on a lit quartz paver. The right hand one has a shell light on the side



Above- the process of shaping and making the lit paver is available as a free download or under the 'process' link on www.uniquelyrock.co.za



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Below and right- A decorative bird bath carved from a solid piece of basalt positioned on a stone upright and base



Top- before, during and after of a large granite sculpture on a rose quartz and cement base



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Solid polished rock bird bath with integrated bonsai. More bird baths under relevant link



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The hanging rocks we collected and drilled holes through and then threaded wire to hold them in place. The pavers we made by cutting slices of rock with an angle grinder, then inserting in cement and polishing smooth. The ground basin we hollowed out a rock we found and also polished smooth using a car polisher and stone polishing disks.



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The rocks we collected in our trailer from an old quarry. This acted as a skin whereupon behind we placed concrete for support. In between the actual rocks we used plaster and then sponged smooth.



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Above and right- this bank collapse was a bit more challenging. We cut the bank back manually using hand held jack hammers then rented a bob cat to load the rubble into trucks which then carted everything away. The trench- above right- was filled with concrete and reinforcing before building the block wall. This was a direct result of a sub standard builder not stabilising the bank before construction.



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Landscaping one of our small cottages. The pavers we made as previously described. I.e. by nailing 4 pieces of wood together for the sides and placing this on plastic so the cement doesn't stick to the table. Most plants were succulents that we propagated our-self by cutting of a branch or section, placing it in the ground and keeping it relatively moist until the roots appeared. These are probably the easiest plant form to grow yourself and will save heaps of money.



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The bonsai pot and large lower one were made by hollowing out two rocks we found. The stem we shaped from also a piece of granite and polished smooth before etching on a design using a dremel. The bonsai its self is a fig and the roots eventually grew down around the central pillar.



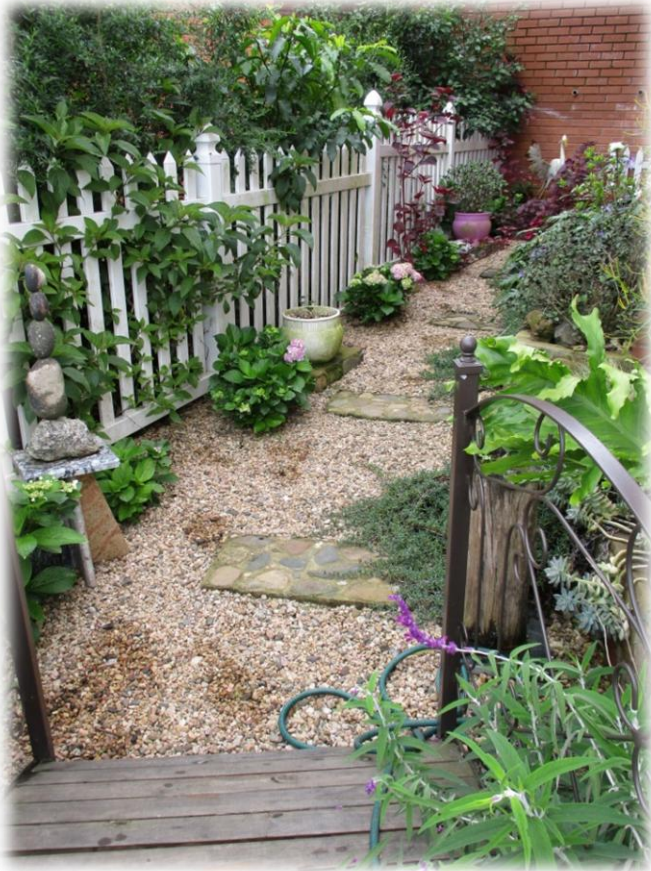
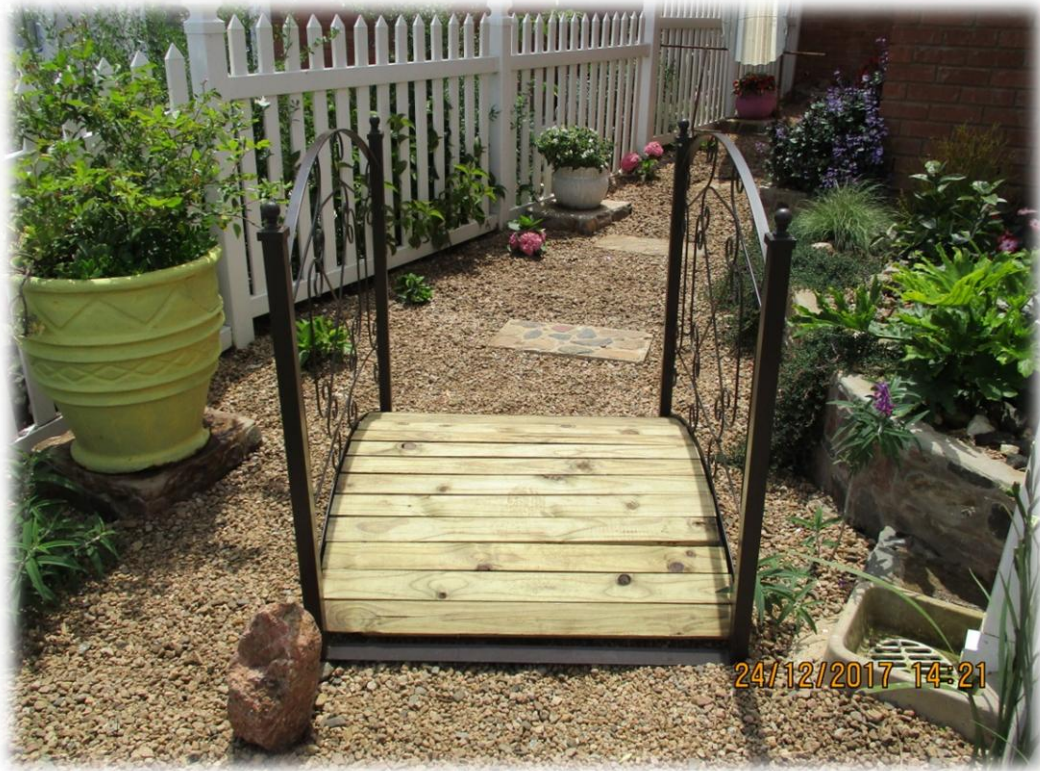
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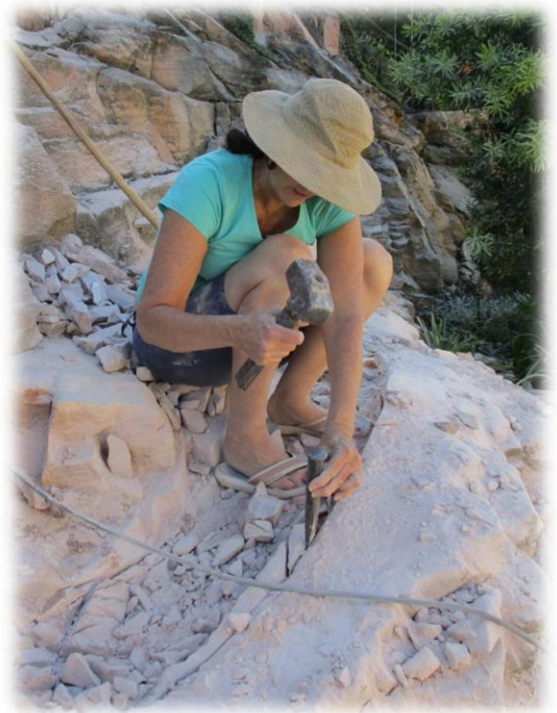


The granite bird bath in the below picture we made by hollowing out a chunk of stone and then polishing smooth



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Above- the area being trenched to make space for the concrete and rocks. The stone pyramid below as with the ones in the following page were made by pinning them together using either threaded bar or reinforcing bar. Some we also polished smooth



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As moisture in the sand would be lying against our courtyard wall we initially painted a water proofing layer against this up to where the top of the sand would be found.



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The same area a few years apart



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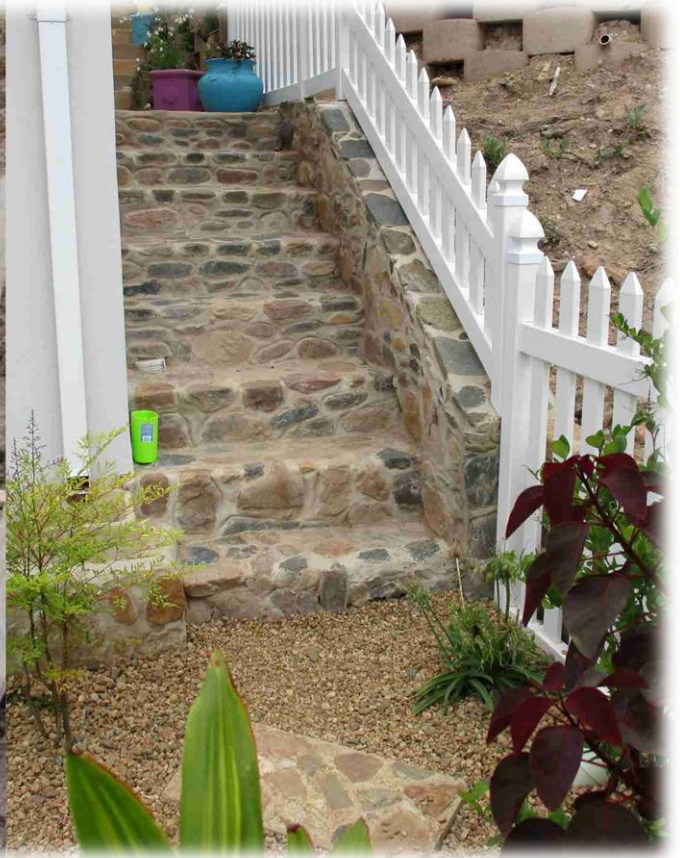


This was a section of our garden that we decided to make into a meditation/reading area. The pavers we made by using flat rock slices which we cut from rocks we found and then embedded into cement, where after polishing smooth



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Another area a few years apart. The walls we built as described earlier and the pavers we made by using rough flat rocks embedded into cement and then sponging the excess cement away between the rocks.



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Below pictures taken at night with garden lighting and then during the day a year later



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The same picture as above but taken a year or two later during the day



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Top image photographed during the day and below- at night without a flash. The bonsais are figs of around 15 years old. The hanging rocks we made as described previously by drilling holes through them and supporting them with wire



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The same area before extending the wall and making a few rock decorations along with planting greenery



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The same bank a few years apart shown earlier that collapsed



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Above left- trenching the area for the foundations of the first wall. The second one was created just above it as seen in the above right and below pictures.

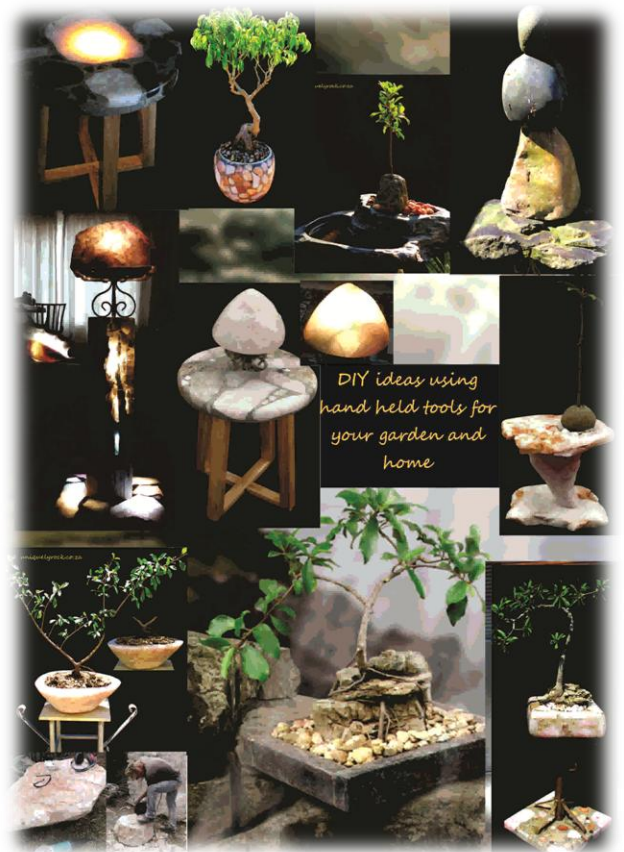
Here is a YouTube link to us working on this wall [making a rock wall up on a bank - YouTube](#)



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A further electronic book (a small fee applicable), containing over 500 full colour pictures of some unusual garden and home creations/decor (including random stage pictures) of what we made at home using hand held tooling. Available through uniquelyrock.co.za

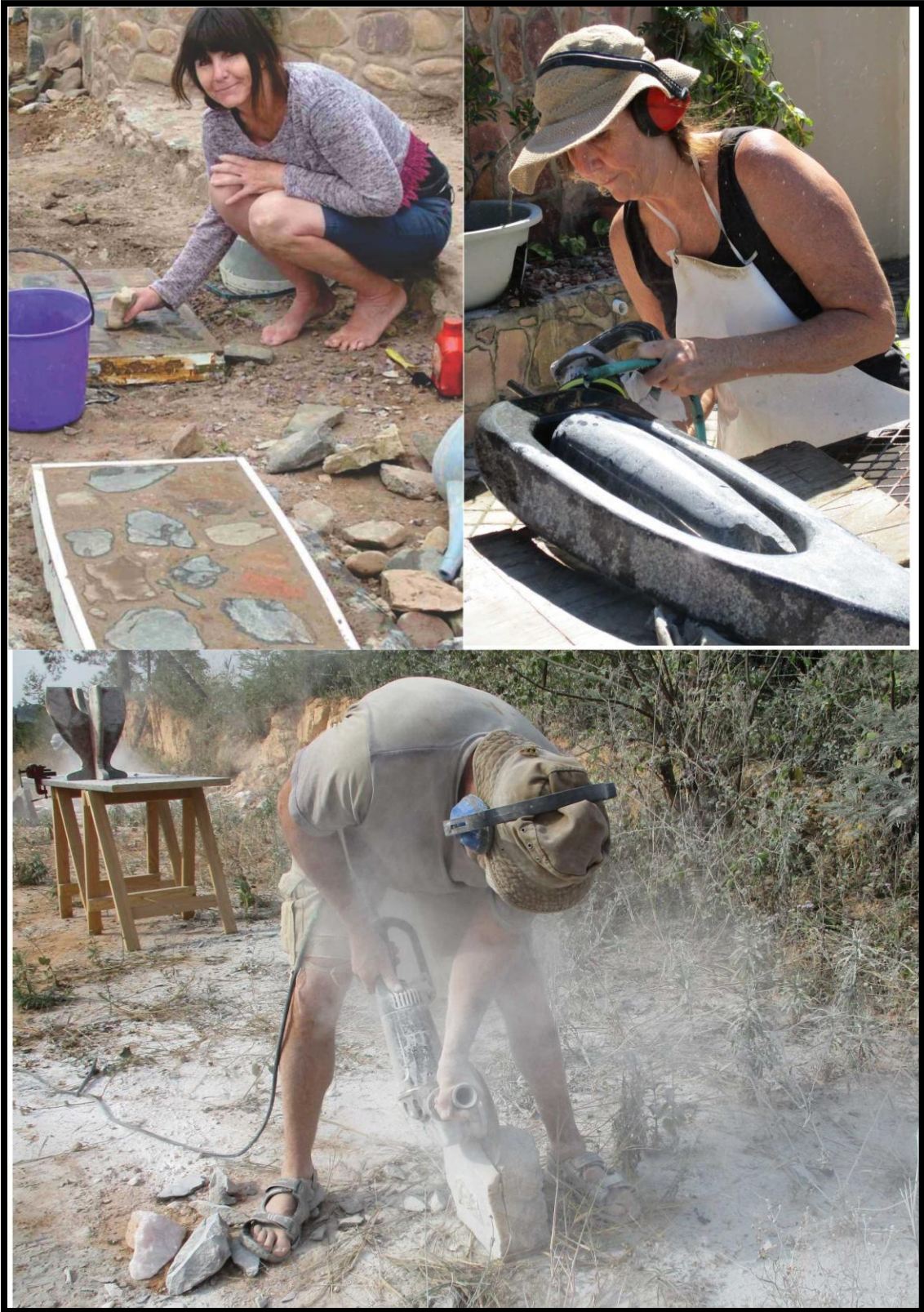


Samples from this book are shown in the following few pages and at the beginning of this document



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Bonsai pot made from bolder



(3) shows what happens if you cut to deep. In this case you will patch with granite glue and rock off cuts and sand smooth.





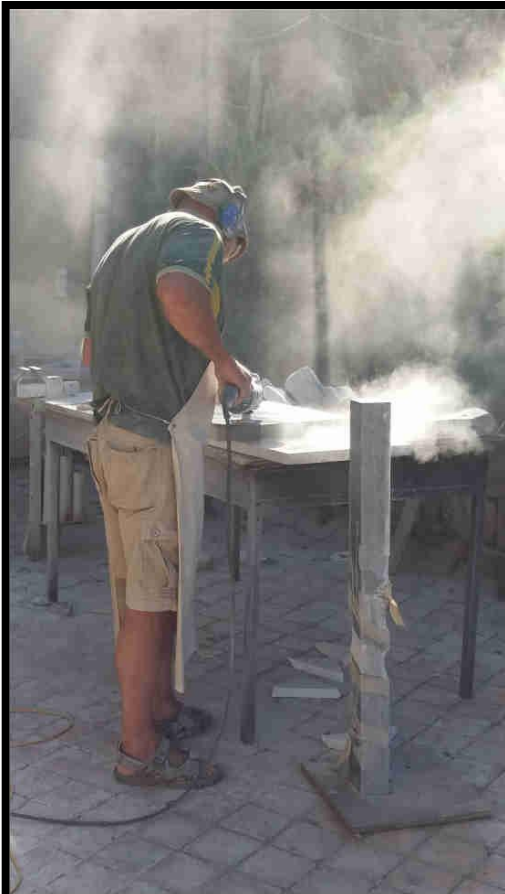
Above- the original piece of rose quartz from which we carved and polished the basin below. Process shown on next page. The black rock with a fig growing out is an add-on where we rounded a rock then polished it and hollowed out the inside from underneath. We made a lid from an old piece of tile, although in this case it wasn't necessary as the inside and the rose quartz bowl contained sand.



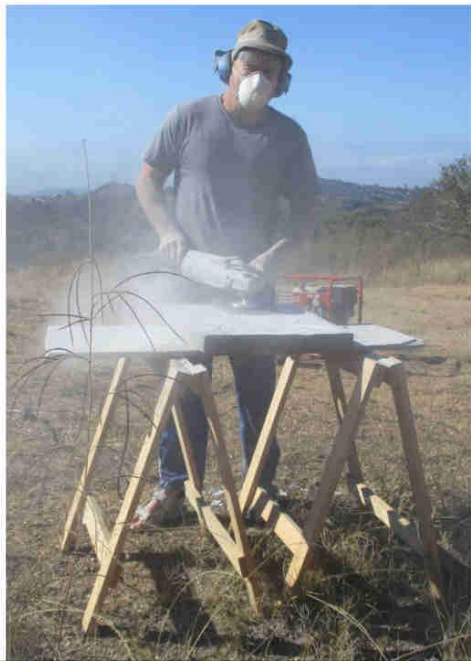
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Decorative garden bonsai stand made from pieces of rock and off cuts of granite



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we started making the first base of a pyramid then it broke so we cut it down for a bonsai stand using a hollowed out rock as



1- raw rocks before cutting
 2- after shaping
 3- after grinding smooth and plishing

--and this happened above. so we made a bonsai stand from the outer base instead and hollowed out a rock to accommodate the plant

Left and right--a small table top bonsai stand and rock plant holder with underside cover

Outdoor plant holder cont

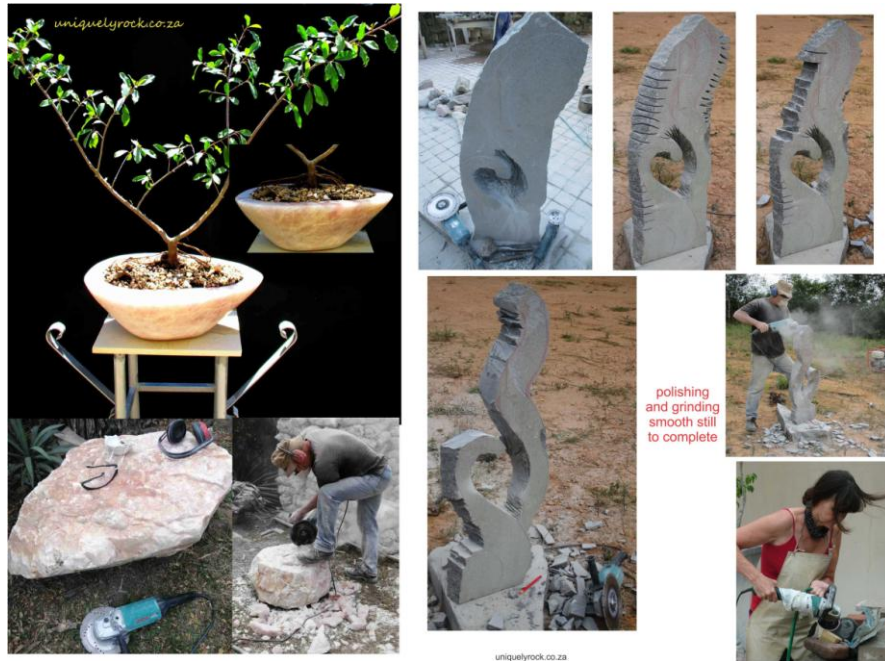


After cutting out your legs from old pieces of kitchen top left overs, polish the underside and edges. Kitchen granite usually only has the top surface polished



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The fabrication of the side bowl and legs

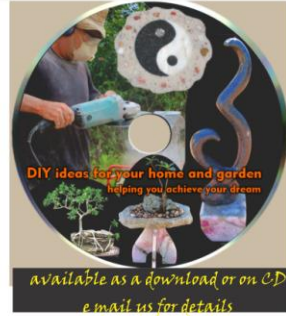


The side bowl for the external roots to grow down into we used a plastic bowl as a mould into which we poured cement and stone chips on the side. The initial hole (before widening with an angle grinder) we created by inserting another plastic container within the outer one. When dry we removed the plastic, filled any holes and cracks and polished/ground the solid bowl smooth



The legs we cut from off cuts of kitchen counter granite and glued together with small metal inserts (biscuit joints) with a pin protruding out the top (right) for the bowl to recess into which also provided a drain hole for e water to exit

More detailed videos under the video link section of www.uniquelyrock.co.za



*available as a download or on CD
e mail us for details*

Below- the making of a small decorative rock pot from a round stone with a removable underside fibreglass lid



Visit www.uniquelyrock.co.za for more the extended gardening & home book of decorative ideas and pictures

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