



# PAINTING THE SEASON!

BY CHRIS FRANCIN  
VENICE GULF COAST LIVING MAGAZINE

Searching for the perfect harvest décor? It's autumn, a great time to do something new, something bold, something beautiful! With a little bit of spray paint, you can turn ordinary leaves into works of art that will set the mood for a fantastic fall in paradise...



## LUMINOUS LEAVES



Transform different-shaped leaves into a masterpiece by painting them in bold shades of purple, orange, turquoise, gold, and blue. Incorporate unique touches by painting a few of nature's gifts like nuts, berries, or fruit and placing them next to your design, or by enhancing the leaves' painted surface with dollops of contrasting colors.







### *Painting Your Leaves*

Get into the spirit of the autumn season by including some colorful leaves in your holiday décor. It's easy to do and is a great holiday activity for the whole family.

You will want to start by finding some interesting-shaped leaves. Select the larger leaves that are somewhat dry on the ground for a more long-lasting effect. We have found that including sea grape leaves with their large, rounded shape is a good choice. Using a variety of different leaves will offer a more interesting design. Pat the leaves to remove any dirt or moisture. Place them overnight in a book to flatten them.

The next day, spread some newspapers outside on a table and lay the leaves on the paper. Hold the spray can at least 10 inches from the leaves to spray and let them dry outside. It is recommended to wear gloves, a mask, and protective eyewear. Let the paint dry before adding a second coat, and that is it!



Once they are dry you can display them anywhere. Some popular ideas include placing them in a decorative bowl, using them as table décor, or even adding them to your flower arrangements.

*Enjoy painting the season!* 