

Congratulations on your choice of a Real Good Toys product. Your kit has been precision made with meticulous care by our craftspeople using carefully selected materials. This Dollhouse will last for years, even generations, if heirloom care and attention is given during assembly. Take your time and read the instructions completely. If you have questions, ask the experts at your local Dollhouse store or at info@realgoodtoys.com

Before you begin - You have already opened the box and see all the parts organized in boxes and bundles. For the moment, keep them that way. There are important things to do before you open your glue bottle.

Prepare your space: This dollhouse will spread out over a large area while it is being built. You will need a large flat tabletop for the house, several boxes to keep parts organized until they are needed, and several trays lined with waxed paper for holding small parts like windows and railings.

A snap-lid box will keep your tools and supplies handy between building sessions.

Preview the Overview (page 4) to plan and organize your build; this helps make it fun and fulfilling.

Measure and identify the parts: The kit is packed in groupings that protect the parts, and that is how the Parts List is organized. As you measure and identify the parts, label them with sticky notes using the names from the parts list, and check them off the parts list so you know you have everything.

Taking the time now to identify and organize the parts also makes them familiar so you will understand what the instructions intend as you read ahead.

- Plan ahead so you know where you are going
- Read ahead so you know how to get there
- Paint ahead so the parts will be ready when you need them



Supplies:

Paint: Interior semi-gloss latex paint... Almost everything gets at least one coat before assembly - get the paint now.

Paintbrushes 1" or 2" foam brushes for each color, 3" foam roller for interior painting

Sandpaper: 320 grit, 3-5 sheets... a sheet of coarse sandpaper (100 or 120 grit) is handy too

Glue: Aleene's Tacky Glue for the dollhouse, Solvent-Based panel cement for shingles

Masking tape: 3/4" or 1" high tack' tape (not 'painter's tape'); Utility knife and/or coarse double-cut file

Wiring: it's easiest to install some parts during assembly... order wiring supplies now.

Wallpaper paste: Roman's "Border" Paste or Grandma Stover's

Not suitable for children under 13 years of age
California 93120 compliant for formaldehyde phase 2

Options:

(these and more are at www.realgoodtoys.com)

Exterior:

- Dormers,
- Windows/Doors



Accessories:

- Gingerbread
- Foundation Stucco Grit
- Octagonal Shingles
- Coach Lamp
- Turnposts and Spindles

Interior:

- Wiring
- Wallpaper or Liner Paper
- Interior Doors
- Banister & Landing Rails

Trim and Stripwood

- Flute24 
- SW16 



Doors

I often enlarge an interior door opening to fit the #6022



Wallpaper



RGT8
Spindle



Real Good Toys' #7999
the Bigger Best1 Wiring Set



T10 Turntable
T250 Assembled Turntable
ET250 Wired Turntable

Stucco Mix



Red Cedar: HOC350

**White Pine:
HOW500**



Shingle Dye

- Dye1: Reddish Brown
- Dye3: Dark Grey



6803 Banister
& Landing Set



2) #4017 Pine Stair,
Banister, & Landing Sets

Identify the parts: Measure each part and find it on the parts list, then label it with pencil or a sticky note. Labeling the parts will help you use the same names that are used in the instructions.

Shell Parts: Measurements listed are for parts identification only

- (1) Back (blank): (3/8Milled) 197/8 x 31,
- (2) J0727 Side: (3/8Milled) 273/4 x 153/4, Peaked.
- (2) J0735 Attic Partition: (3/8) 8 tall x 85/8 base
- (1) J0730 Attic Ceiling: (3/8) 301/2 x 11/2, angled
- (2) J0729 Upper Floor: (3/8) 301/2 x 157/8, Stair hole
- (2) J0736 Front/Back Foundation: (3/8) 301/2 x 11/4 Grooves
- (4) J0737 Middle Foundation: (3/8) 151/8 x 11/4
- (4) J0734 Divider: (3/8) 9 x 153/4, Door cutout
- (1) J0728 Base Floor: (1/4) 301/2 x 157/8
- (1) E3638-1300 Shingles: packed in multiple bags
- (2) FO-1600 Roof: (3/8) 34 x 13, beveled
- (1) Roof Hinge (C) 311/2
- (16) Screws (#4) 3/8 Flathead
- (1) FO-1600 Top-Front: (1/2) 31 x 15/16, beveled box
- (1) J0738 Front Step, Bottom: (3/4) 211/16 x 93/4
- (1) J0739 Front Step, Top (**Unused**): (3/4) 17/16 x 71/4, dado
- (2) J0740 Chimney MidCap: (3/8) 15/8 x 27/8
- (2) J0741 Chimney TopCap: (3/8) 11/4 x 21/2
- (2) J0742 Chimney Block: (11/4) 21/2 x 4, Angled
- (2) J0743 Stripwood, Back: (7/16 x 3/32) 203/8, Angled
- (2) J0744 Stripwood, Front: (7/16 x 3/32) 20, Angled (**Unused**)
- (2) E9801 Bottom Stair Block: (6Step) 21/4
- (2) E9802 Top Stair Block: (6Step) 21/4, Bev.
- (2) E9803 Stringer: (1/8 x 13/16 mdf) 107/8, Angled

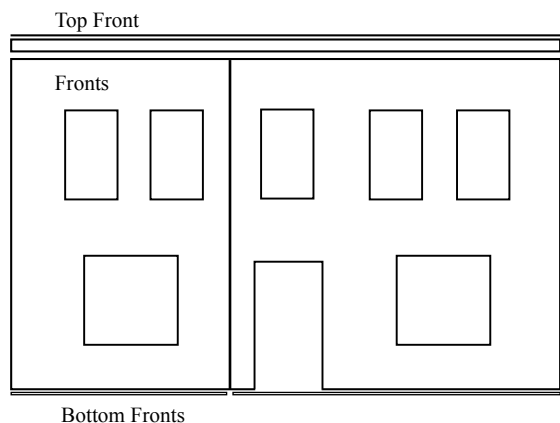
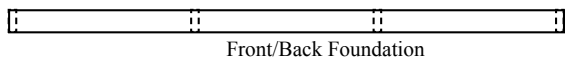
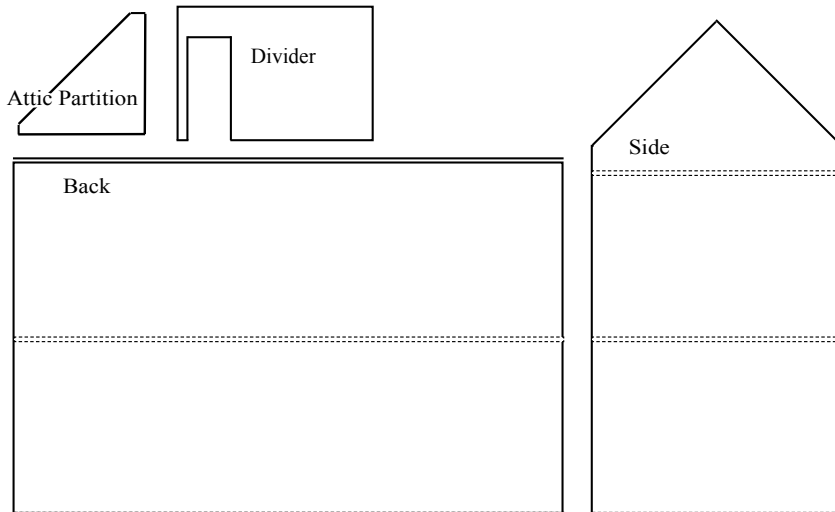
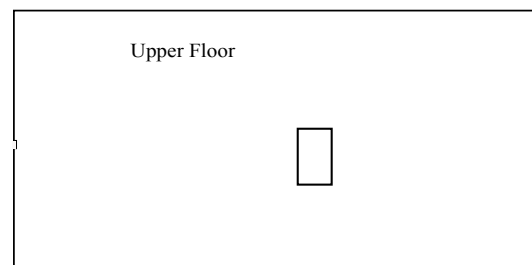
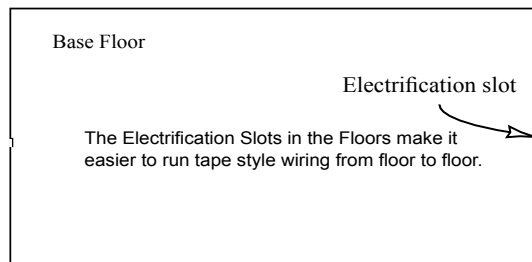
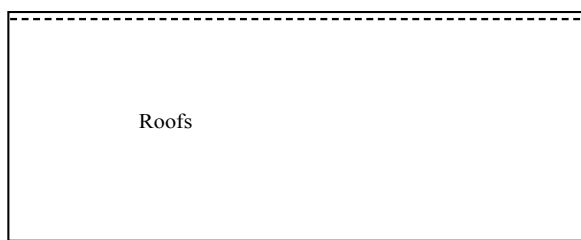
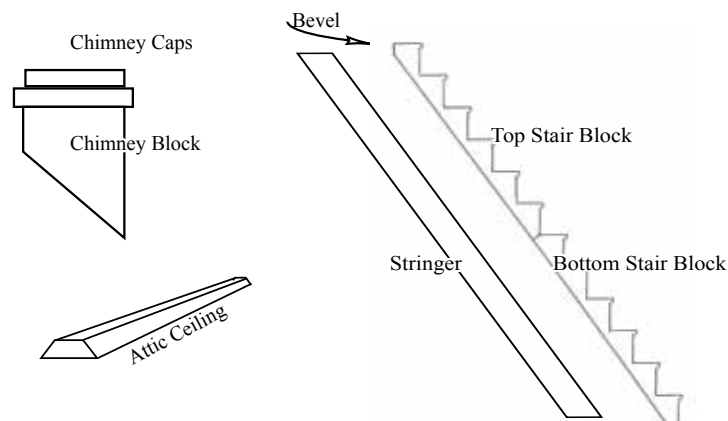
Box 2 Parts (Boxed and shipped separately):

- (1) L Front: (3/8Milled) 183/8 x 1125/32, Cutouts
- (1) R Front: (3/8Milled) 183/8 x 191/32, Cutouts
- (1) Bottom Front L: (3/8Hardwood) 3/8 x 1125/32
- (1) Bottom Front R: (3/8Hardwood) 3/8 x 191/32
- (4) Stripwood: (13/32 x 3/32) 183/4
- (1) Front Step-Top (**use this one**): (1/2) 17/16 x 81/4 beveled
- (8) Front Hinge (C) 1
- (32) Screws (#2) 3/8 Flathead
- (2) Magnetic Catch with screws

Components

1	6002	Door
5	U2029	Window
2	5020C	Bay Window
4	5025	Shutter pair

Drawings are not all the same scale



Overview of the Build:

Details of each step will be expanded along the way, but lots of folks like to see how it all fits together before they start

Identify and label all of the parts
 Paint everything* *one coat*
 Option: Faux-wood floor finish on the floors
 Sand everything until the paint is smooth, transparent,
 and some of the wood is showing through
 Build the housebody up to the Roof
 Second-coat the outside Walls
 Mark, paint, and attach the Rear Roof and Chimneys
 Optional: Start the wiring
 Foundation, Install the Dividers
 Optional: Finish the wiring
 Assemble and finish painting everything else
 Attach the hinged panels
 Finish the outside
 Finish the inside

*Avoid painting edges, grooves, or surfaces that will be glued: for instance do not paint the outside of the Roofs or the bottom of the Base Floor

Wiring? www.realgoodtoys.help

Assembly Tips:

A large, clutter-free, well-lighted work area is helpful during assembly, but a flat work surface is essential.

Read the instructions carefully; look at each of the illustrations. **!With the parts in your hands!**, think the assembly through before you proceed.

Test fit each time you are ready to glue a piece in place... then you'll know you have it right.
 If more tape or a helper is needed, it's good to know that before the parts have glue on them.

Don't be stingy with glue or tape; use generous amounts. Always wipe off excess glue immediately.
 Keep one damp rag and one dry rag handy all the time.
 Have weights available for holding things tight as glue joints dry (stacks of books, gallons of pure Vermont Maple Syrup - anything heavy).

Glue the body of your dollhouse together with white, water clean-up glue that dries clear. Do not use instant-bond (super glue), fast-tack, rubber cement, silicone, or hot melt glues. They are all used in some wood applications, but they all have some characteristic that makes them un-desirable for the body of your dollhouse. Carpenter Glue works well, but glue-smear dries yellow or tan; many of the things you glue onto the house are pre-painted – extra glue will show.
I use Aleene's Tacky Glue® for housebody assembly.
Make sure everything is straight and flat as glue dries...
 That's the shape that will be permanent.

Slideshows, demos, useful links, details, and photos are all at:

www.realgoodtoys.help

Glue the shingles on with glue that doesn't have any water in it! If the glue says "water clean-up", it will curl the wooden shingles. Look carefully at the glue you intend to use to be sure it is solvent-based, or use hot-melt glue (use the high temp version and watch out for the burns). I use a "Sub-Floor Adhesive" glue which comes in a caulking-gun tube at the hardware or building supply store. It says "Caution: Flammable" on the front, and that's how I am sure it is *solvent based*. Check ingredients and warnings!

If you Wallpaper, use Grandma Stover's www.realgoodtoys.com or pre-mixed Roman's "Border" paste.

Brush paste on the wallpaper, then the wall, and finally smooth the wallpaper into position.

Taking things apart: Heat softens glue. If you have to take things apart, warm the part in the oven at 170° for up to a half hour to let the heat get into the joint where the glue is. Don't let it get hotter than you can touch or the paint may scorch. Don't heat window panes. www.realgoodtoys.help has more info.

When glue is drying, skip ahead to up-coming assembly steps and prepare the parts that will be used.

Before you begin, read the "Finish the Inside" section at the end of these instructions.

Q: Can I wallpaper before I assemble the doll house?

A: Yes you can (it's your house!) Many experienced builders are advocates of papering before construction - I am not.


My biggest objection to papering first is that you are always too skimpy with glue so none will squeeze out and get on the paper. I try to use the amount of glue that fills the joint, so some will squeeze out in every joint and be wiped up. But wiping glue off of wallpaper leaves a streak, so the temptation is to go skimpy, and the joints aren't as strong.

Second, I can always tell a house that was pre-papered because the corners show a void instead of being continuous (see the slideshows about how to crowd the papers together in the corner... you can't do that with pre-papered walls).

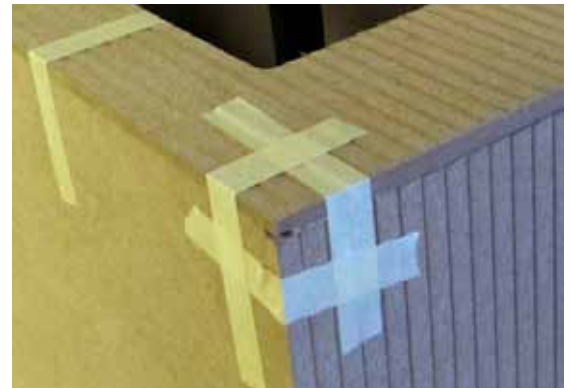
Third, I have had to replace paper too often that has gotten damaged by glue or tape during construction... that wastes time and paper (\$) and can make it so you are left deciding whether to replace a damaged paper or letting it slide because you don't have any more of that pattern and you'll have to order it and that takes too much time (running out but then needing another piece is a distressing moment).

Finally, I don't find pre-papering to be faster. By the time I have done all of the extra planning that getting the papers in the right place requires, I have used up any potential advantage. I have big blacksmith's hands, and papering in a finished house is easy for me. All that having been said, I do pre-cut the papers used in the attic before attaching the Roofs.

Masking tape is a great universal puller for dollhouse assembly, here's how to get the best out of it:

- a. *Use a sticky yellow tape*, not the easy-to-remove painter's tape.
- b. *Use enough tape* so you can start a distance from the joint and rub down several inches on the end, then...
- c. **Stretch** the tape as you pull it across the joint  **Rub** the tape down so it will remain tight while the glue dries.
- d. **For more pull**, put on two thicknesses at the same time, or even three.

Wood always reacts to uneven moisture from paint or from having one surface exposed to the open air and the other facing a table top. It is part of the dollhouse builder's art to straighten reactive wood as you are building, and masking tape is your first and best tool. Many layers of tape will tighten or flatten even the most misbehaving panel, and it's normal to stretch bands of tape all the way around the house to hold the joints tight as the glue dries. Don't be shy when using masking tape!

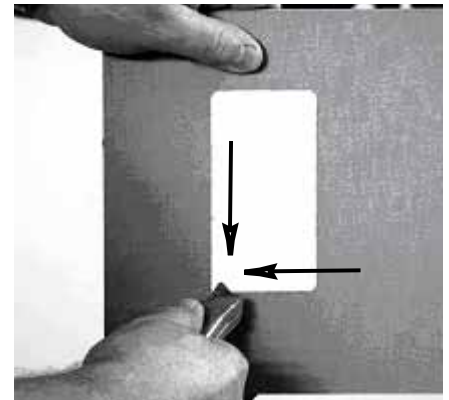


3-way tape on the corners

A: Getting Started: Do these things before the house assembly

Square the corners of the window, door, and stair holes with a utility knife - each cutout has a rounded corner left over from the tool that made it. Make two cuts in each corner from the outside (one from each direction), then cut from each direction on the inside to cut away the rounding in the corner so the window, door, or stairs will fit.

A Double-Cut Coarse file is easier for many people to use when squaring the corners. Make several strokes from each direction in each corner and test the Window or Door to see how it fits. **5408-10 at www.realgoodtoys.com**



Stain the Shingles: Our pro uses Real Good Toys' Shingle Dye (available at www.realgoodtoys.com or through your Real Good Toys miniature dealer) when dyeing the shingles for this house. Batch dye or stain the shingles several days ahead of time so they will be dry when the time comes to use them (instructions are with the shingle dye).



Demos and slideshows are at: www.realgoodtoys.help

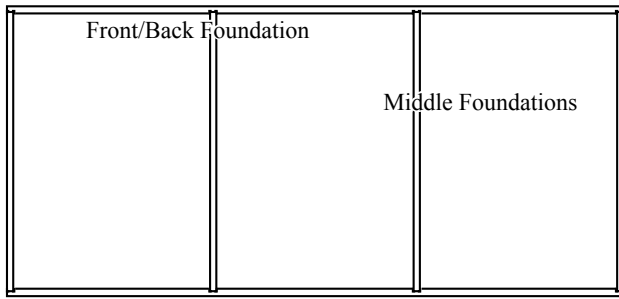
Can I do it differently? *Yes you can - but:*

The information on these pages is offered as "best practices" advice, and it is what we do when we build this house. But if you are customizing or have something else in mind, go ahead!... just test-ahead to make sure your planning includes *everything!*

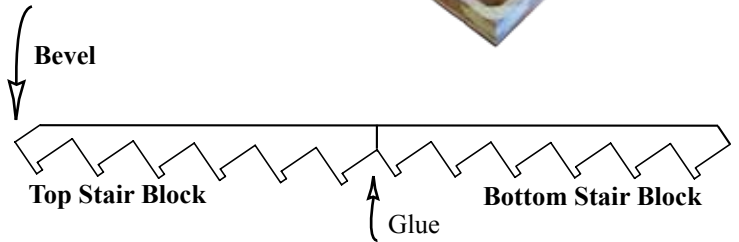
B. Pre-Assembly

Without glue, line up the edges of the Foundation Set with a floor to keep it square as the glue dries.

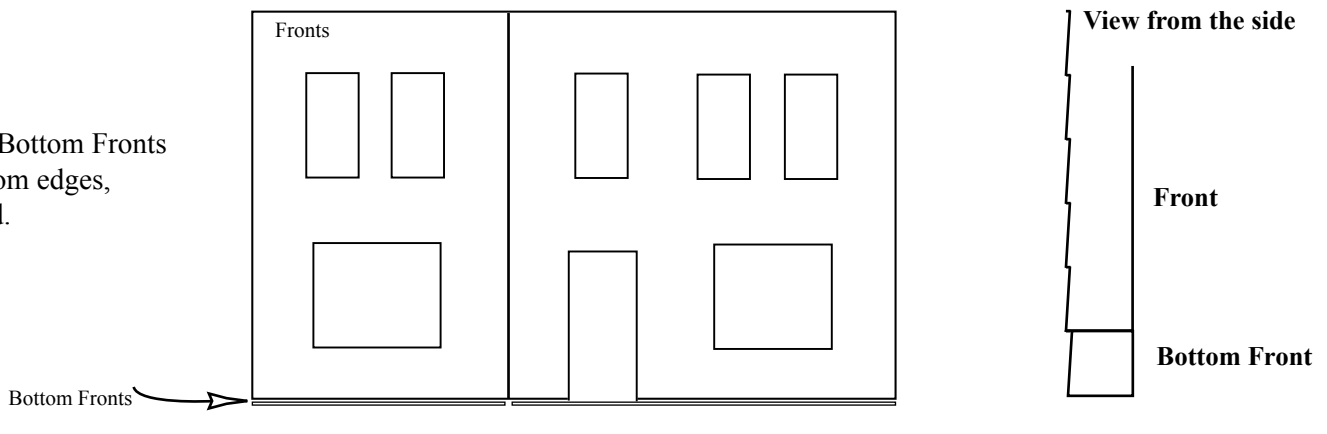
Glue and tape together the Foundation set.



Glue and tape together the Interior Stairs.



Glue and tape the Bottom Fronts to the Fronts' bottom edges, lined up all around.



C: Painting: The order of assembly and painting is a back-and-forth process of test-assembly, marking, painting, and final assembly. There are three things to keep in mind as you do this:

1. **The quality of your paint job depends on sanding after the first coat**, and sanding is easiest and best while the parts are un-assembled.
2. **Glue doesn't stick to paint.** It does, however, stick to a part that has been first-coated and sanded. For this reason, parts that will be the same color can be glued together after one coat and sanding, but before the second coat of paint is applied.
3. **Where different colored parts will be glued to each other**, the neatest result will be achieved if the parts are marked and painted to just cover the mark, leaving the rest of the joint unpainted. That way, when they are glued together, the glue joint will have wood for strength (glue doesn't stick well to paint), and the joint between colors will be perfect (impossible to achieve with masking for painting).

Use interior semi-gloss latex paint. Details can be painted with 'Samplers', which are a lower-gloss finish (harder to clean) or with craft paints. I use 1" and 2" foam brushes and a 3/16" flat bristle brush for details; dress smooth areas (like the interior) with a foam roller to eliminate brush marks.

A word about primer: Primer is designed to help paint stick to an impervious surface or to join layers of dissimilar paints. In *this* application, the first coat of paint soaks right into the wood and fills the grain - you *could* do that with primer, but its job of being an interface between different materials doesn't apply here. In *this* application, primer just adds steps and expense. I don't use it under exterior colors, but I *do* one-coat and sand the interior walls and ceilings before assembly, and primer (or any light-colored paint) is a good choice for that.



Do not stack painted parts - even when they feel dry they will stick and damage each other. Keep them spread out or separate them with waxed paper.



Painting: www.RealGoodToys.help has painting and sanding videos

Paint the parts the first coat. The first coat mostly soaks into the wood, filling and reinforcing the grain so the sanding step clips off the fibers and leaves the surface smooth. Resist sanding before painting - it will leave the surface fuzzy and make a smooth finish harder to achieve. The quality of your final finish is dependent on the quality of the sanding after the first coat. Do not go back to re-paint just because the paint has soaked in. Just a bit of paint left on the surface tells you you have put on enough to saturate the grain, which is the right amount. More paint than that will only make sanding harder.

Glue doesn't stick to paint. Avoid painting edges, grooves, and areas that will be glued (like the outside of the roofs).

Paint the walls on both faces. Paint the Upper Floors on the bottom face (the ceiling). Consider a Faux-Wood finish on the floors. See www.realgoodtoys.help for links. Paint the Trim on one face and both edges.

Sand everything. Sand until the paint is smooth and "soft" feeling, transparent, and some of the wood is showing through. Sand the Clapboard one-clapboard-surface-at-a-time. Fold the sandpaper and sand back and forth until the surface of that board is smooth and transparent; then move on to the next board. Fold the sandpaper as needed to keep it fresh.

Paint the second coat. The Second coat for the outside of the Walls should be done after assembly of the housebody and before attaching the Roof. The second coat goes on smooth and creamy with enough paint on the brush so it is quiet while you are brushing the paint out, but not enough to leave puddles or drips.

Clean the edges and grooves before assembly. A little paint always builds-out the corner of an edge or groove and will make assembly harder and the glue joint less strong. Test the Floors in their grooves to see that they fit well.

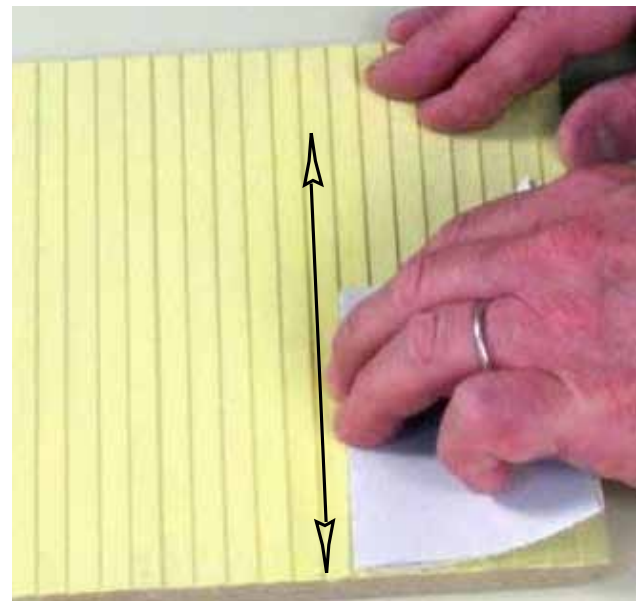
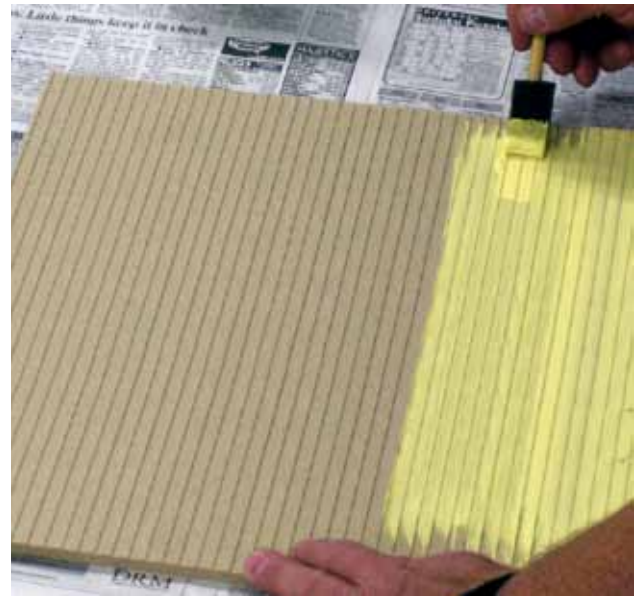
Cleaning a groove with a Cabinet Scraper



Cleaning a groove with a knife



Cleaning an edge with the back of a utility knife blade



Housebody (Steps 1 - 5)
Assemble the Floors, Sides, and Back

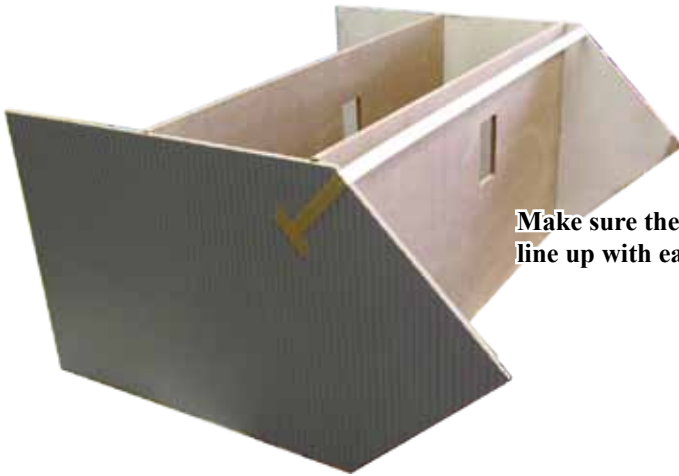
Note: this view is looking down on the workbench; the front is down, the back is up. In this view, the stairs are on the right, viewed from the front.



1. Spread glue in all the grooves of both Sides.
 Stand the Sides and Upper Floors on edge.

**The stair hole can go on the left or on the right, but it must be closer to the back (up).
 See step 21 on page 18 for consideration of where to put the stairs.. on the right (shown) is easiest.**

2. The Floors stick up $\frac{1}{8}$ " past the Sides (this will fit into the grooves of the Back). Tape across the Sides above the top floor.



**Make sure the Stair Holes
 line up with each other.**



The Floors all stick up $\frac{1}{8}$ " in back (up).

3. The Floors all line up in front with the Sides (the edge on the Table).
 Tape the Base firmly into the groove.



Continue on to the next steps before letting the glue dry

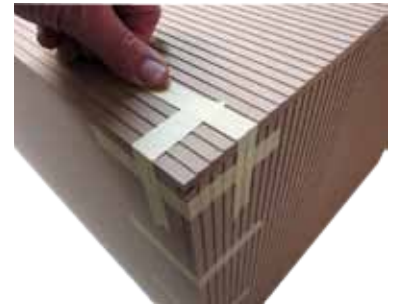
4. Spread glue in the grooves of the Back and on the back (up) edges of the Sides.

A. Attach the Back to the housebody lined up carefully side-to-side at the base.

Line up the Base corners



A well taped corner



B. Check that the Middle Floor is in the Back's groove.



Tape the base of the Back firmly to the base of the housebody, checking again that it lines up side-to-side.

Line up the housebody with the Back side-to-side at the middle Floor level.

Tape the Back to the Sides.

C. Line up the housebody to the Back at the Top Floor's level.



Tape the Back to the Sides.



Continue on to the next steps before letting the glue dry



5. Carefully stand the house upright and tape tightly across the front.

Review: Check all joints to be sure they are tight, particularly the top of the Base Floor.

Clean up excess glue.

Temporarily put Dividers between the Floors as the glue dries.

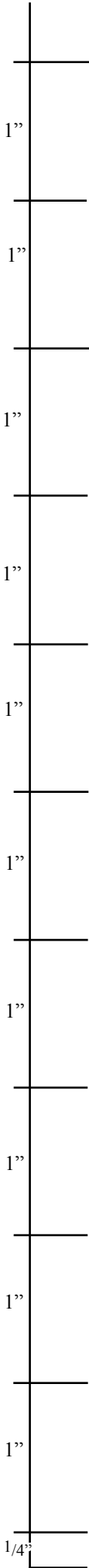
Tape the Back to the top Floor.



Let the glue dry!
Then take off the tape.

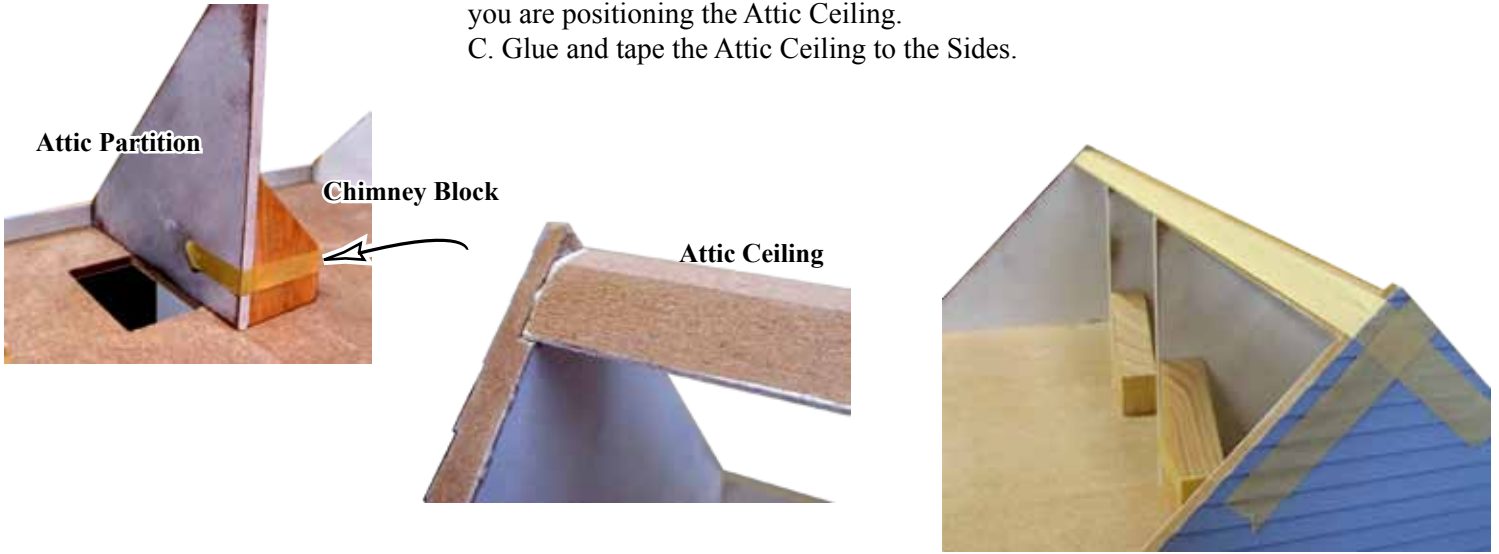
When the glue is dry it is a perfect time to finish painting the housebody.
Painting should be complete on anything attached to the house from now on.

6. Draw shingle guidelines on the outside of the Roofs (with the face of the bevel aimed away and at the top). Draw the first guideline 1/4" above the bottom edge (for the "Starter Row", or 1/2" if you are flashing the dripedge - see "Shingle the Roof"); draw the rest of the lines spaced 1" apart.



7. Attic Ceiling:

- A. Temporarily, put Dividers between the floors to hold the floors straight.
- B. Tape Chimney Blocks to the Attic Partitions to hold them upright while you are positioning the Attic Ceiling.
- C. Glue and tape the Attic Ceiling to the Sides.



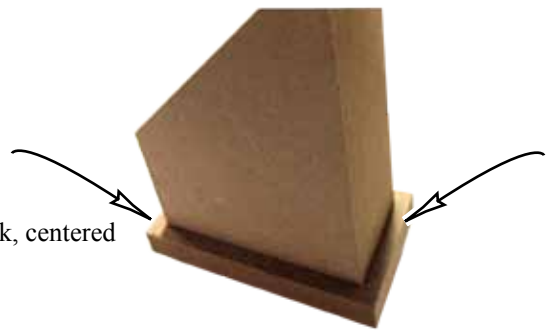
Take off the Chimney Blocks but leave the Attic Partitions supporting the Attic Ceiling

8. Assemble the Chimneys.

Chimney Caps centered, then turn it up-side-down.



Chimney Block, centered

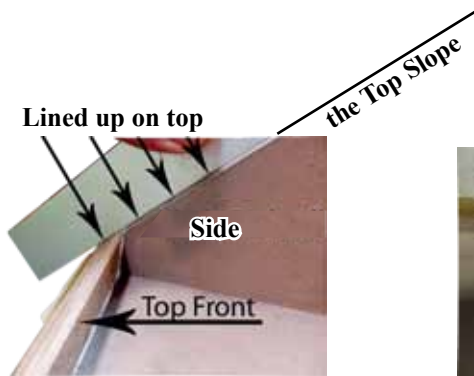


9. Place Dividers between the floors.

Glue and tape the Top-Front to the Sides and Top Floor, centered side-to-side and lined up carefully with the top slope of the Sides. Let the glue dry.



Top-Front



Covers about half the thickness of the Top Floor



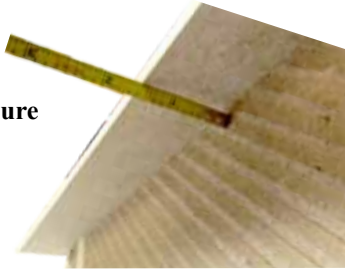
Tip the house on its back and weight the Top-Front if necessary for a good glue joint. Clean up the glue squeezings - let the glue dry.

Let the glue dry! Then take off the tape.

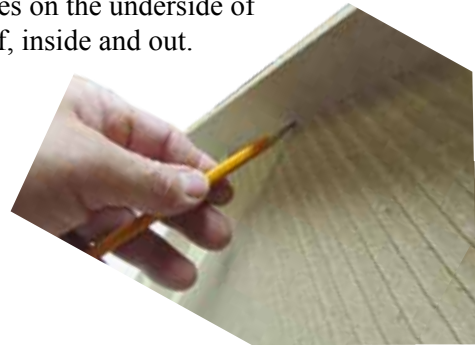
Roofs: Tip the Housebody forward onto a sturdy support about 12" tall (a box, cooler, or stack of big books) so the Roof won't slide off while you're working on it.

10. Lay the Rear Roof in position spaced evenly (1 1/2") side-to-side and a tiny bit behind the peak of the Sides.

Measure



Trace the Sides on the underside of the Rear Roof, inside and out.

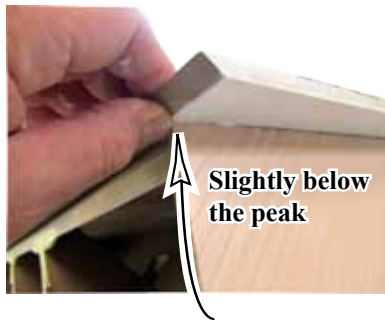


Note, the Front Roof and Rear Roof are the same until you paint them ... the Front Roof does not get glued to the house so it can be painted all the way across the inside.

Paint the Roofs' edges and undersides (inside the attic and the outside overhang of the Rear Roof) leaving a narrow area between the tracings (glue doesn't stick well to a fully painted surface).



11. Glue the Rear Roof to the housebody spaced evenly (1 1/2") side-to-side and a tiny bit behind the peak of the Sides. Tape and weight - check on the inside to be sure it is tight everywhere. Let the glue dry



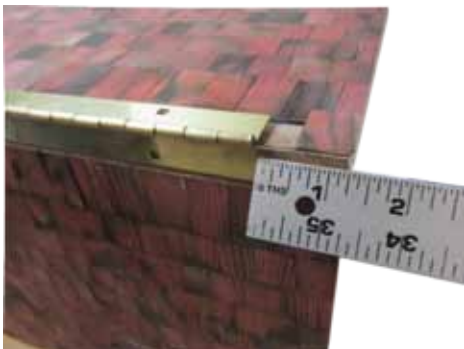
Let the glue dry - take off the tape.

12. Tip the house onto the support from step 10 so the Front Roof is up. Set the Front Roof in place.



Hold the Roof Hinge snug on the roofs and mark the holes for the screws. Don't let the hinge slip while you are marking the holes.

Drill or punch a hole for the screws in the center of each mark. Use a 1 - 1.5mm or 1/16 - 5/64 drillbit or an EL66 tool (available from realgoodtoys.com).



Hinge, centered (1 1/4)



Hold the hinge tight, trace the holes



Drill or punch the holes

Make a pocket (countersink) for the screw heads by reaming the top of the hole with a knife or larger drillbit. If you use a craft knife for reaming, spin the blade a lot and be gentle with the push or the tip will break.

Drive the screws with a #1 Phillips head screwdriver in new condition. Do not over-tighten.

A proper screwdriver will hold the screw when it is level.



Ream the holes



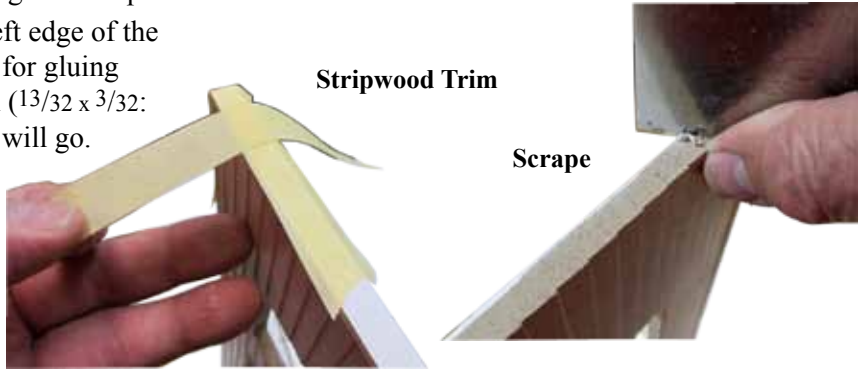
Lots of spin



Screw

13. Lay the Fronts on the worktable, side-by-side and right-side-up.

Scrape the right edge of the Right Front and the left edge of the Left Front to clean excess paint and prepare them for gluing on Stripwood trim. Glue and tape Stripwood trim ($1\frac{3}{32} \times \frac{3}{32}$; $18\frac{3}{4}$) to the edges of the Fronts where the hinges will go.



Stripwood Trim

Scrape

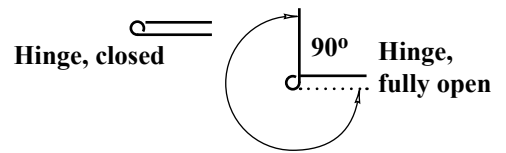


View from the inside with stripwood and hinges attached

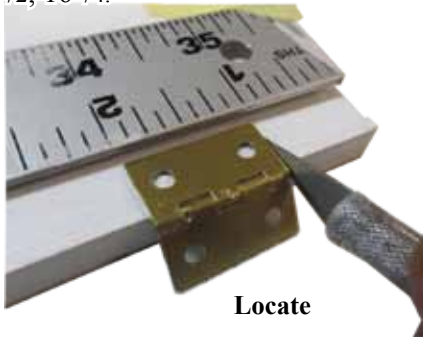
Let the glue dry - take off the tape

14. Test the 1" hinges to see that they can open fully ($\frac{3}{4}$ of the way around). Squeeze the hinges if necessary to make them open fully.

Turn the Fronts over and lay out 4 hinges on the inside face at the outside edges (where the Stripwood Trim is). Lay the hinges pin-down with the pin hooked on the edge of the panel. If the trim sticks out (if it's wider than the Front is thick), carve it away for the hinge. Locate the hinges spaced evenly: 1; $6\frac{1}{4}$; $11\frac{1}{2}$; $16\frac{3}{4}$.



Pin-down

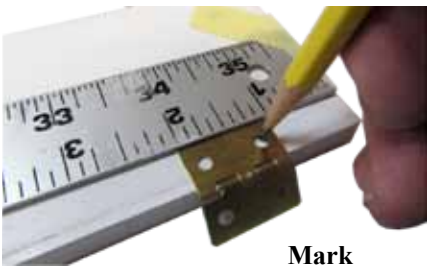


Locate



Carve if necessary

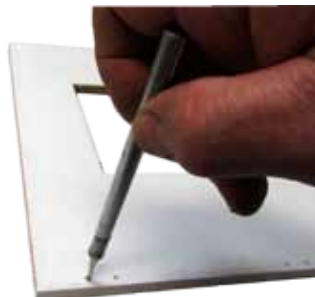
Mark, Drill, Ream, and Screw the hinges to the outer edges of the Fronts, just as you did for step 12 (although these screws are smaller - #0 or #1 driver).



Mark



Punch or Drill



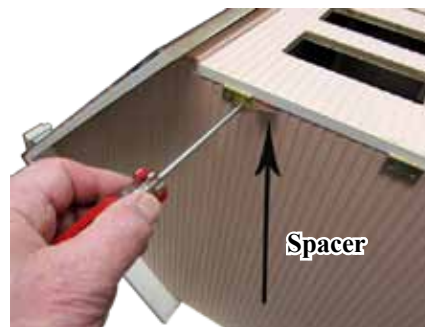
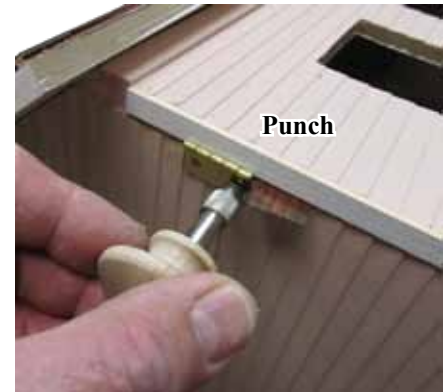
Ream



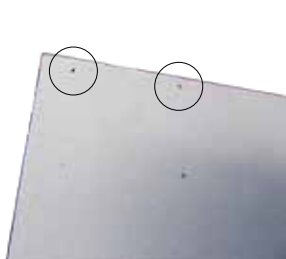
#2 x $\frac{3}{8}$ " flathead

Drive the screw

15. Lay the house on its back with the Rear Roof overhanging the end of the table.
 Set the Fronts on the housebody with the hinges on the outside of the Side.
 Space the Fronts from the Sides with a shingle next to each hinge.
 Punch, Ream, and Screw the Hinges to the Sides (#2 x 3/8" flathead).



16. **Magnets:** Stand the house upright. Mark the floor where the Fronts meet.
 Locate, trace, punch, and screw a magnet to the Top Floor slightly offset from the mark and slightly back from the edge of the floor..
 Stick the Striker Plate to the Magnet so the dimples will make locating dents as you *press the Front firmly closed* against it. Punch, ream, and screw the plate to the Front (#4 x 3/8 flathead - the same as the Roof Hinge).
 Repeat for the other Magnet and Plate.



If you are going to wire your house, now is the best time to start. Run tapewire thru the Electrification Slots up one side, across the Attic Ceiling, and back down to the bottom of the Base Floor on the other side, all in one piece with no connections. Leave a 2" up-side-down flap under the Base Floor on each end to attach to the inside of the Foundation once it's installed.

see: www.RealGoodToys.help for more on wiring this house

17. Foundation: Glue, tape, and weight the house to the foundation, lined up at the Front edge, and centered side-to-side.



A: Foundation
Line up and tape the front, centered side-to-side



B: Foundation - Center and tape in back.

C: Add weight; let the glue dry.
Then take off the tape.

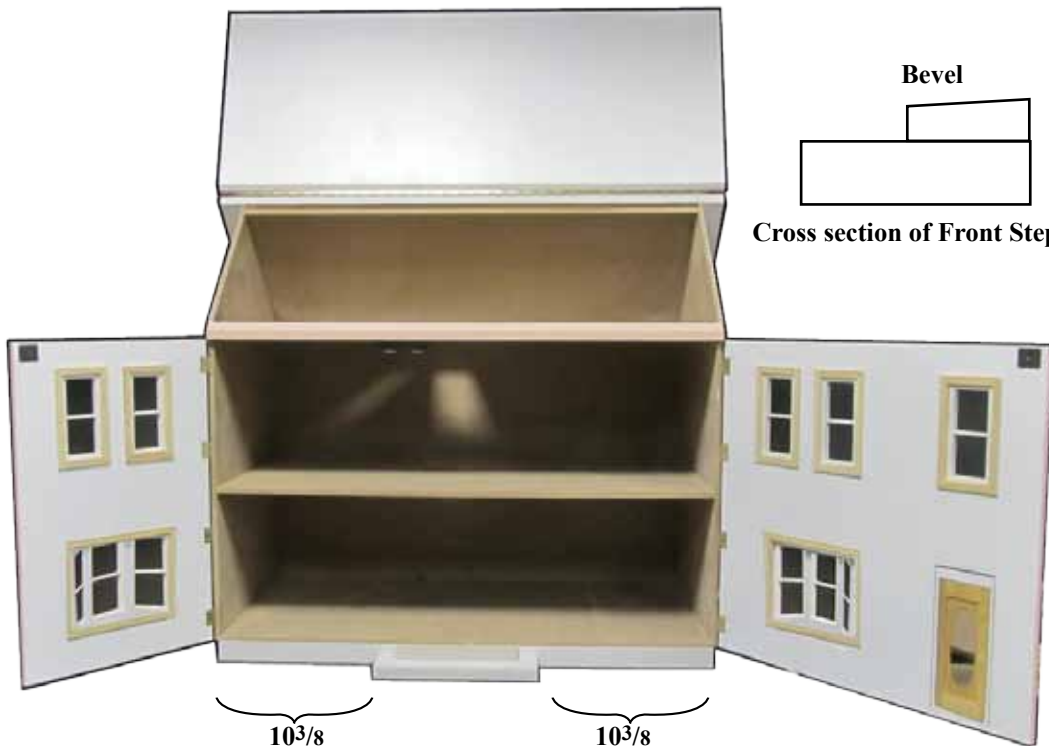


See "Stucco Grit" on the last page

Front Opening Dollhouses and flat table tops:

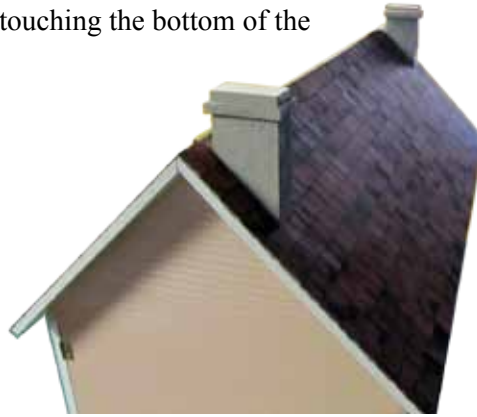
Every Tabletop has some shape to it and that shape can effect how the Fronts "hang". The bevel on the top of the Steps helps the Fronts line up with each other when they are closed but if they are off by much, shim one front corner or the other to see how that changes the way the fronts meet. The photos below - right show how two shingles changed the 'hang' of the fronts on this model.

18. Glue and tape the Front Steps to the Foundation, centered side-to-side (10³/₈). the Top Step's bevel faces up and outward.



19. Glue the assembled Chimneys to the Rear Roof, touching the bottom of the Hinge and lined up with the side of the house (1 1/2").

See "Stucco Grit" on the last page



There is more Shingling info at www.realgoodtoys.help

20. Shingle the Roof: Glue: Use a thick, *solvent-based* panel adhesive available in caulking gun tubes at building supply stores. Look for the "Flammable" warning to know it is a Solvent Based adhesive, and follow the manufacturer's warnings. If there are no warnings or if it says "water clean up", then it is an acrylic based adhesive and will curl the shingles.

A. Glue a "starter row" of 1/4" long Shingles square edge down along the bottom edge of the Roof, or "Flash" the edge with a 1/2" strip of copper (#SC from **Real Good Toys**) to prepare the bottom edge of the Roof for the first row of shingles. Note: your top rows will be cut to 1" leaving a 1/4" offcut. Cut them now (45 for the front and 45 for the rear) and use the offcuts here.

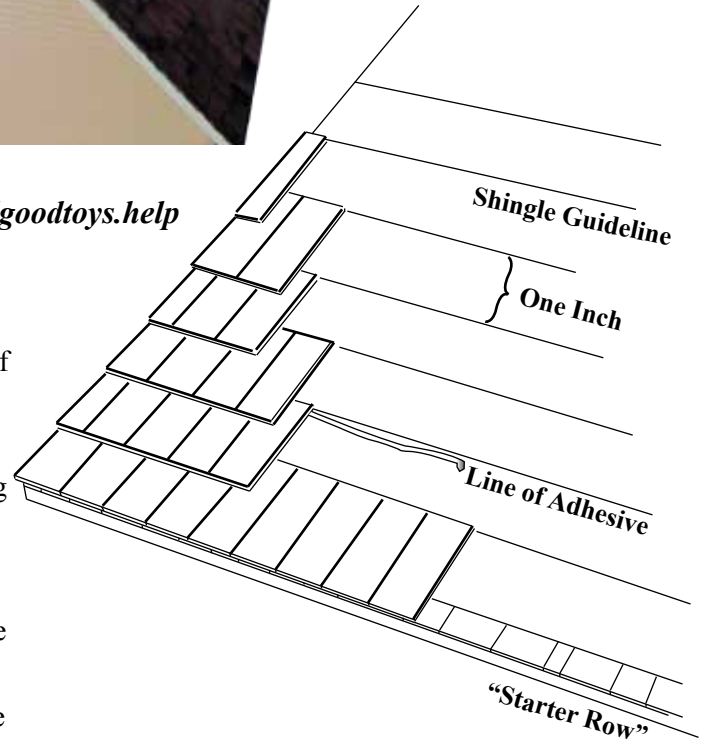
C. Apply a thin line of adhesive just below the lowest guideline all the way across one roof. Press the top edge of a Shingle into the line of glue, smearing the excess upward. Hold the first Shingle steady and press another Shingle into the adhesive, tight to the first. Hold the next Shingle and press in another... etc. all the way across the roof, cutting the last Shingle to fit

Continue up the roof one row at a time. Start the next row with a half Shingle so that the seam between Shingles weaves back and forth as you go up the roof. Line up the top edge of each row (except the starters) with the guidelines.

Cut shingles to fit around the Chimneys to keep the bottom edge of every row straight.

Cut the top row of Shingles (1") so that the next lower row has a 1" reveal.

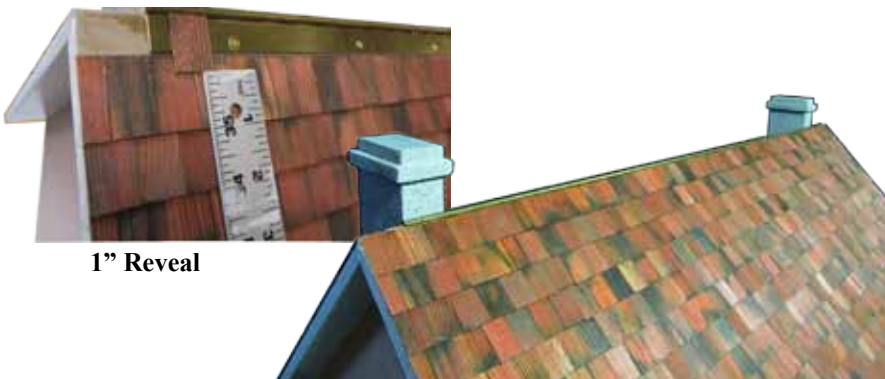
Be cautious with the glue for the shingles on the leaf of the hinge - don't press excess glue into the hinge's moving parts. White glue does not work here.



Starter row



First row



1" Reveal



Half Shingle

Finish the Inside...Plan Ahead!

Interior finishing involves so many choices! Will this house be a play-house or a display for miniatures? What accessories will be used and where will they go? Wiring? Wallpaper? Tile or carpeting? Every choice makes a difference in the order of finishing. Real Good Toys has provided materials for some basic interior work, but you may choose to do it differently.

- Make your choices
- Get your materials
- Test your layout

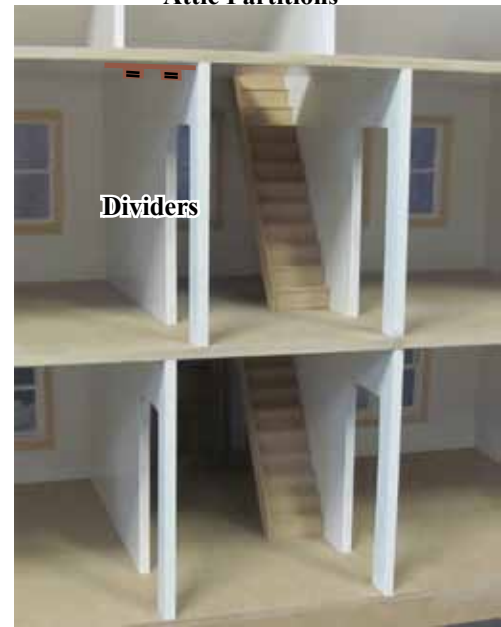
With the pieces in your hands, imagine the steps to get to where you want to be.

Now you're ready for your order of interior finishing.

Here's the order that our assembly pro follows for tackling most custom interior finishing:

- Start the wiring (using "tape" style wiring)
- Dividers and Attic Partitions
- Finish wiring
- Wallpaper and paint
- Windows and Doors
- Flooring
- Baseboard and crown moldings
- Stairs

Attic Partitions



21. Tip a glued Divider or Attic Partition and move it into the house not touching anything until it is almost against the back wall, then lift the next higher floor, straighten the Divider, and push it the last bit into position. Do 1st floor Dividers first. Dividers next to the Stairs are recommended, but the other Dividers can go anywhere you like. If you put your stairs on the Right, the upstairs hall is limited to about 4⁷/₈" wide unless you notch the Divider to go around the Magnets. If you put them on the left the stair-side Divider will have to be notched (it's not hard). Test your ideas then follow your plan.

Note: Test the Dividers with the Window and Door interior trim installed before gluing the Dividers in place.

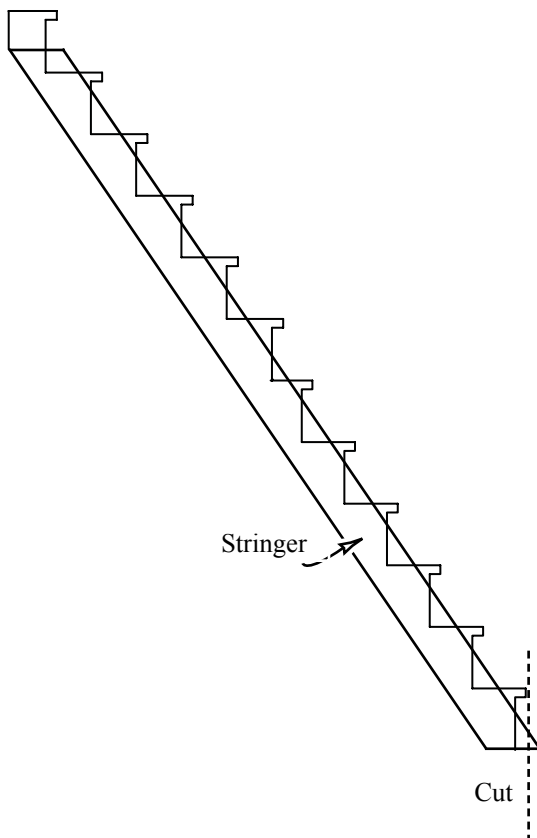
22. Assemble the Stairs:

a. Without glue, test the Stair assembly in the stair hole. The stairs are tight to the wall and the top tread is flush with the floor.

Wait to permanently install the stairs until flooring and wallpapering are done.

b. Glue the stair assembly in place. Let dry.

c. Trim the Stringer to extend just past the edge of the bottom stair tread. Glue the Stringer to the side of the Stairs for support.



23. Painting Windows and Doors:

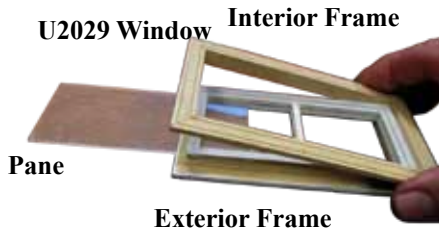
Disassemble Windows and Doors for painting:

Windows have removable Panes; slide out the Panes and make a card-stock copy of the pane to blot the groove after each coat of paint (don't leave the blotter in the groove while painting or while paint is drying).

Remove the Door's bottom pin and tilt the door panel out of the frame. Tape the Pin somewhere safe to keep from losing it while painting (a paperclip cutoff can substitute for a lost pin).



Door: remove the pins



Do not paint the 'rub' surfaces of the U2029 Window interior and exterior frames - it will be impossible to assemble them with the extra thickness of paint in this joint.

Reassemble the Windows and Door when painting is done.

The 5020C Window disassembles for painting but be cautious with the amount of paint that is left in the rub areas (the areas that touch when the window is assembled)... too much paint will keep it from re-assembly.

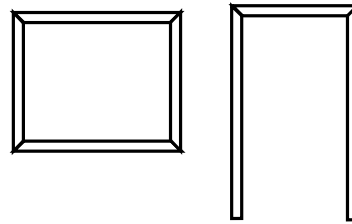
I paint one-coat and sand, then assemble, then second-coat.

Assemble the Window Liners (the square-cut trim in the 5020C Window box) with the long pieces overlapping the short pieces. Glue the Liners to the Bay lined up with the floor and ceiling of the Bay and centered side-to-side.

Interior trim goes around the Liners after installation - if your wall is extra thick from wallpaper or other thickness-additions, you might add an extra piece of a thin trim along the inside of the interior frame... I find 5/64 Stripwood to be attractive there.

24 Glue in the Windows, Shutters, and Door.

Glue in Windows and Shutters at the same time to get position and fit exact. Hold the Interior Frame in the cutout and slide the Exterior Frame into it.



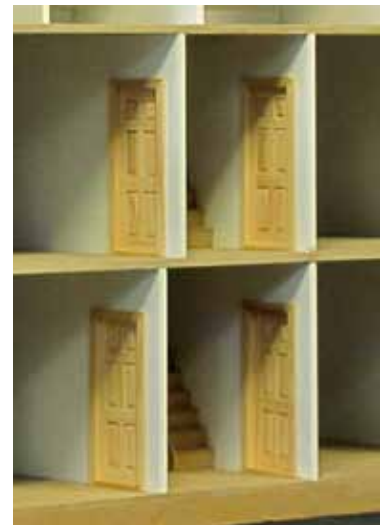
B. Assemble the Interior 5020C Window Frames and the Door Frame, and glue them around or centered over the Windows and Door when interior finishing is done.



**U2029 Colonial Windows
5025 Louvered Shutters**



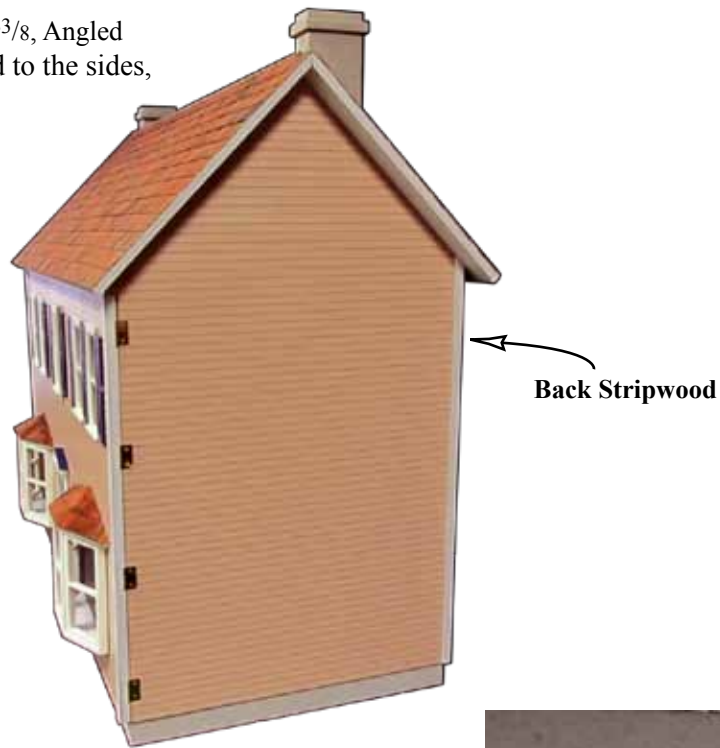
5020C



Optional #1015 Interior Doors

25. Stripwood, Back: ($7/16 \times 3/32$) $20^{3/8}$, Angled
Glue and tape The Back Stripwood to the sides,
covering the edges of the Back.

Stripwood, Front: Optional
Glue and tape Stripwood trim
($13/32 \times 3/32$: $18^{3/4}$) to the
front-corners of the Fronts.



26. Stucco Grit (optional)
Mix Real Good Toys' *Stucco Grit* with your foundation paint, and apply
with a brush in short swirls or slap the surface in a random pattern for a
tough finish and a realistic look on your foundation, steps, and chimney.



You have finished the Dollhouse Assembly
part of your project...

ENJOY THE REST

