

My Dreamhouse Add-A-Room

This kit will add an additional level to your 'My Dreamhouse' dollhouse. The ideal time to include this Add-A-Room in your build is while you are building the 'My Dreamhouse' dollhouse, but you can also add this to the completed dollhouse with some dis-assembly.

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

Choose your paint. Semi-gloss interior latex paint is recommended for all dollhouses. If you are building this Add A Room afterward and the original paint choices are unknown, your paint store may be able to scan a part of the dollhouse for color matching.

Prepare your space: This kit will spread out over a large area while it is being built. You will need a full-sized table for organization and painting, and enough cardboard, paper, or plastic to protect it from paint. A snap-lid box will keep your tools and supplies handy between building sessions.

Measure and identify the parts:

The kit is organized in the box to protect the parts, and the Parts List is in the same order. 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 their names 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

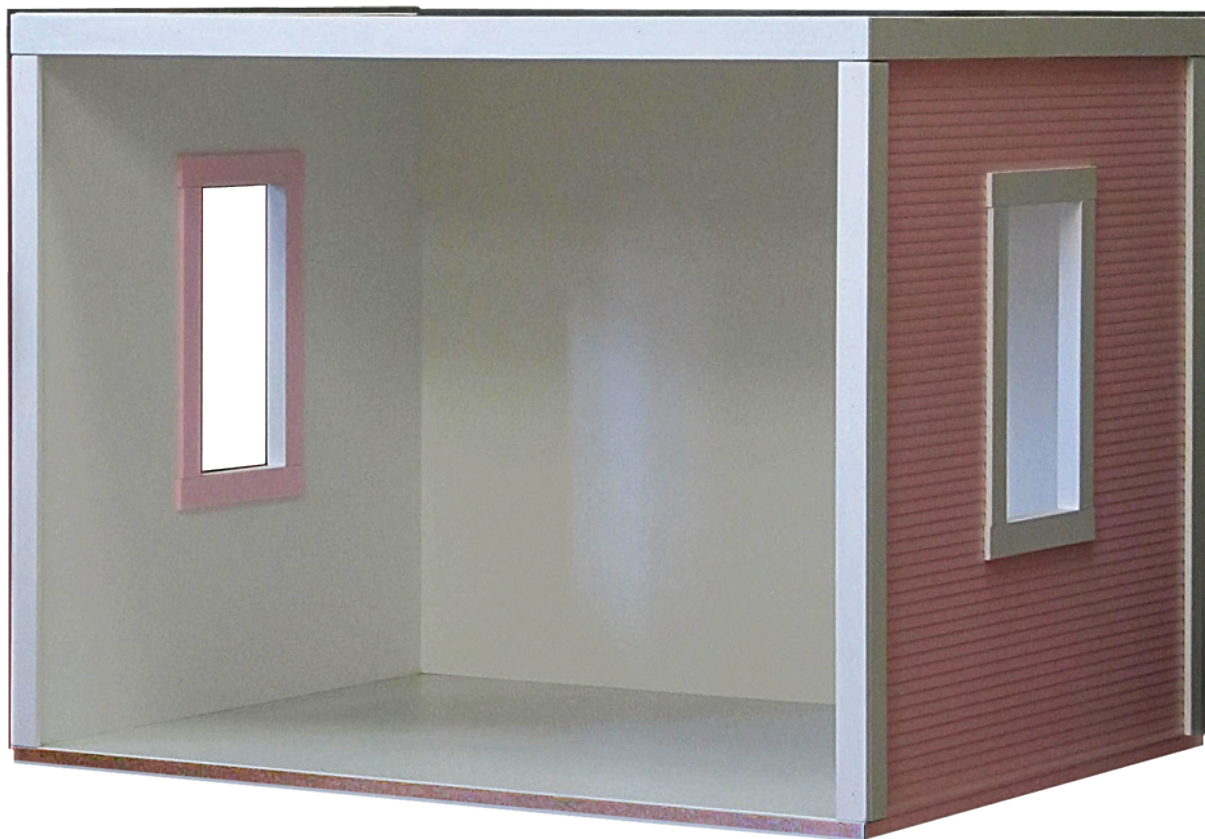
Tools and Supplies:

Tape measure or ruler, Pencil, Sticky notes (like PostIts®)

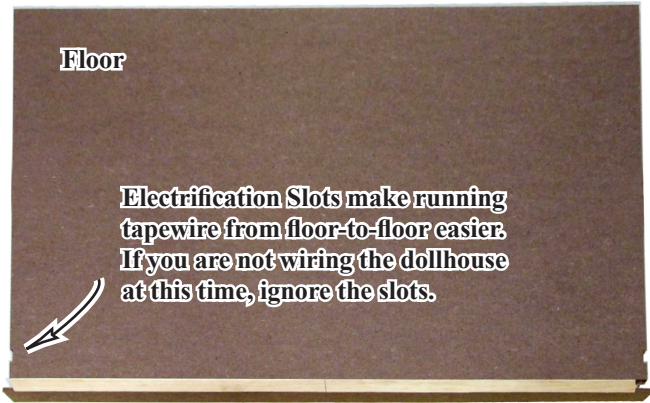
Tacky white glue (like Aleene's Tacky Glue®) for all construction

Masking tape, Painting Supplies, Sandpaper (especially 320gr)

PostIts®, and Aleene's® are trademarks of their manufacturers and have no affiliation with Real Good Toys



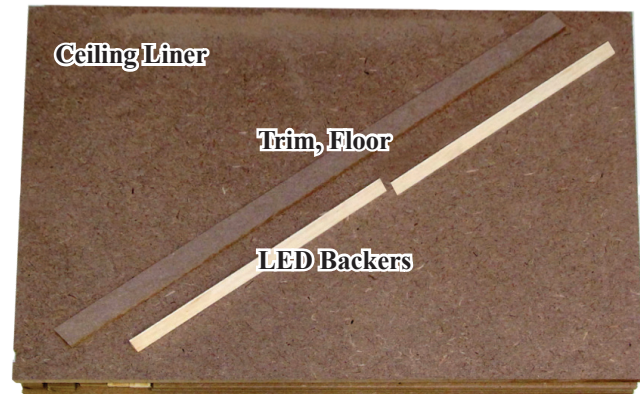
Approved for children over 12 months with adult supervision.
California 93120 compliant for formaldehyde phase 2



Measure, identify, and label the parts

Parts: (Measurements are approximate and are for identification purposes only)

- 1 AG104 Floor (3/8) 22³/₄ 29¹/₂ Electrification Slots
- 1 AG120 Trim, Floor (1/4) 11¹/₄ 30⁹/₁₆
- 2 AG124 LED Backer (pine Triangle) 5/8 14⁹/₁₆
- 1 AG105 Ceiling Liner (1/4) 22³/₄ 29¹/₂ Electrification Slots
- pr AG102 Side, L&R (3/8 Milled) 23 23 Window cutout
- 4 AG125 Window Side (3/4 x 1Pine) 9¹/₂ Groove
- 4 AG127 Window Sill (3/4 x 1Pine) 7³/₁₆ Groove, Notch
- 2 AG119 Trim, Back (1/4) 11¹/₄ 21³/₄
- 2 AG117 Trim, Horiz. (1/4) 11¹/₄ 23
- 4 AG121 Trim, Front (1/4) 11¹/₄ 21³/₄
- 1 AG103 Back (3/8) 23 29¹/₂ grooves



Accessories that fit 'My Dreamhouse' scale (18")

www.realgoodtoys.com or 802-479-2217

#AG185 Add A Room Kit for an additional story (or two!)

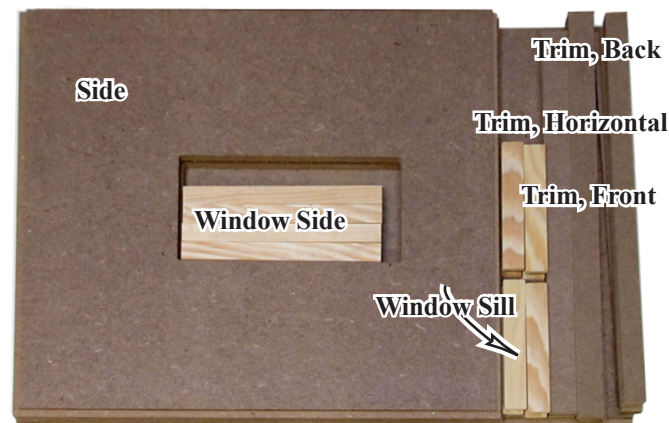
Light-it-Up™ Indirect lighting with ExtraBrite™ LEDs

30-LED-P (pure white) or W (warm white) LED lights,

Light-It-Up kits #E224, #E225, and #E226

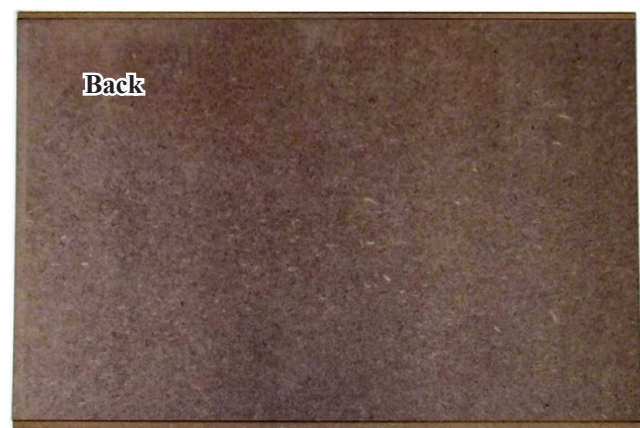
#6888 Best1™ Wiring set for basic wiring up to 3 rooms or

#7999 for more intensive wiring or to support more fixtures



Overview of the build:

- Identify and label the parts
- Plan your paint scheme - get painting supplies
- Wiring? Get wiring supplies (see page 9)
- Paint everything one coat (follow the Painting Instructions)
- Sand everything (follow the Sanding Instructions)
- More painting
- Build the HouseBody (the Back, Sides, and Ceiling Liner)
- Remove the foundation from the dollhouse
- Wiring? Assemble the sections and run tapewire (levels can be separate for easier transport only if not wiring)
- Finish painting
- Attach the Trim

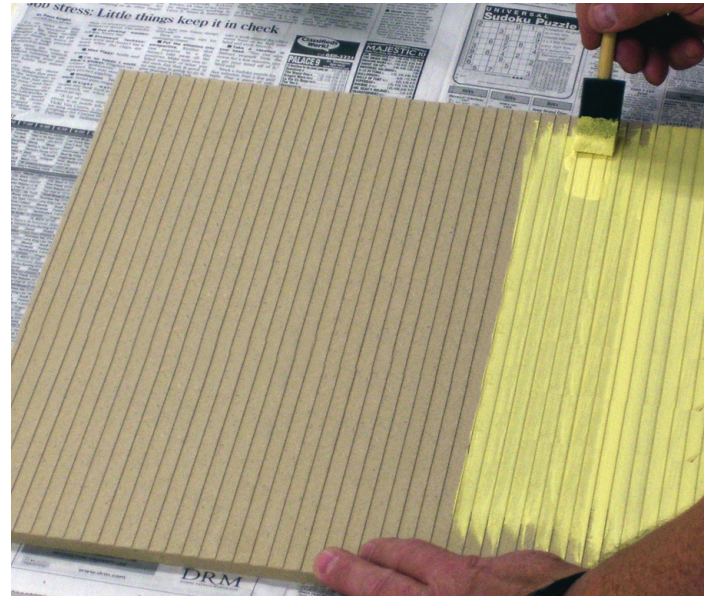


A word about primer: Primer is designed to help paint stick to an impervious surface or to join layers of dissimilar paints. In *this* application, the first coat of paint soaks right into the wood and fills the grain - you *could* do that with primer, but its job of being an interface between different materials doesn't apply here. In *this* application, primer just adds steps and expense. I don't use it here and don't recommend it.



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.

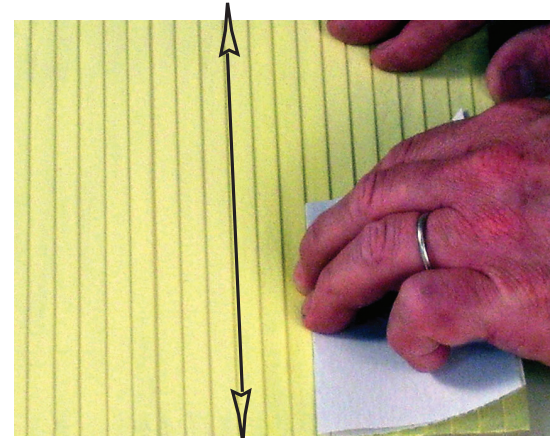
Paint the parts the first coat. The first coat mostly soaks into the wood, filling and reinforcing the grain so the sanding step clips off the fibers and leaves the surface smooth. Resist sanding before painting - it will leave the surface fuzzy and make a smooth finish harder to achieve. The quality 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.

Paint the Back and Sides on both faces. Paint the Floor on one face (consider a 'faux-wood' finish on the floor... see Youtube gpr01010). Paint the Ceiling Liner on one face. Paint the Trim on one face and both edges.

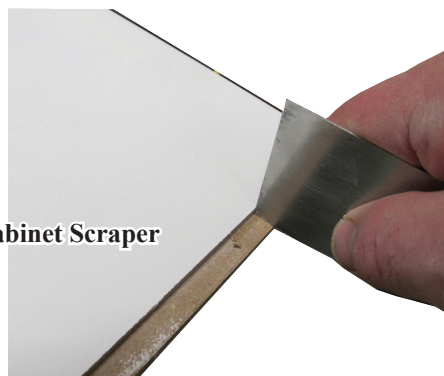
Sand everything. Sand until the paint is smooth and "soft" feeling, transparent, and some of the wood is showing through. Sand the Clapboard one-clapboard-surface-at-a-time. Fold the sandpaper and sand back and forth until the surface of that board is smooth and transparent; then move on to the next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



Paint the second coat. The Second coat for the outside of the Walls may be done after assembly of the housebody (that's what I do). 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.

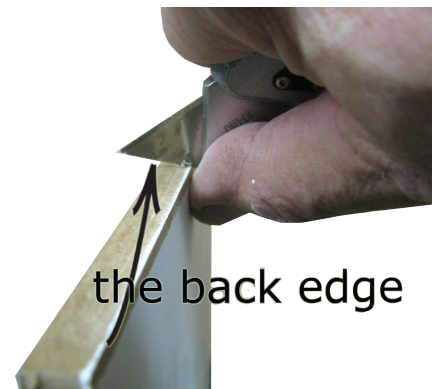
Clean the edges and grooves before assembly. A little paint always builds-out the corner of an edge or groove and will make assembly harder and the glue joint less strong. Test the Floor, Liner, and Back in their grooves to see that they fit well.

Cleaning a groove with a Cabinet Scraper



the back edge

Cleaning an edge with the back of a utility knife blade

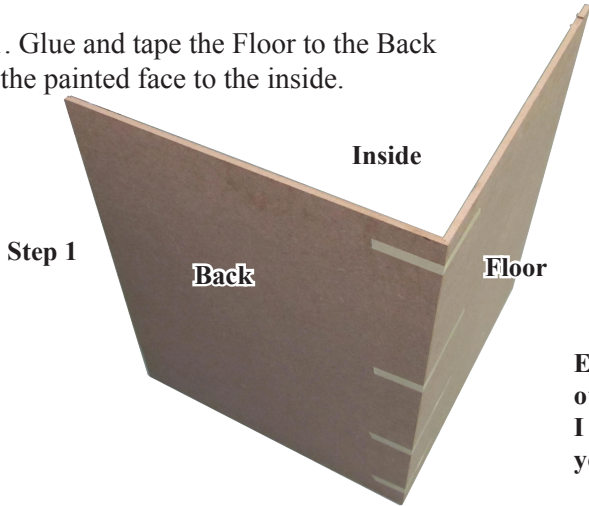


Assembly:

Continue to step 5 without stopping

Note: Many of these photos are of un-painted parts, but you should have painted these parts at least one-coat already, and have sanded thoroughly.

1. Glue and tape the Floor to the Back with the painted face to the inside.



Use enough glue so some squeezes out of every joint. Keep a damp rag and a dry rag handy to clean up excess.



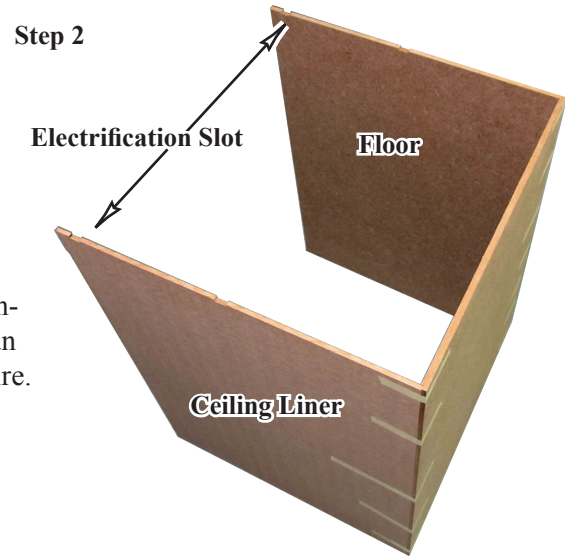
Electrification Slots in the Floor make it easy to run tapewire throughout your build, and multiple slots allow a choice in how you are wiring. I usually put the slots forward to feed lights behind the Floor Trim but your plan may be different. Plan ahead, then do it your way!

See page 9

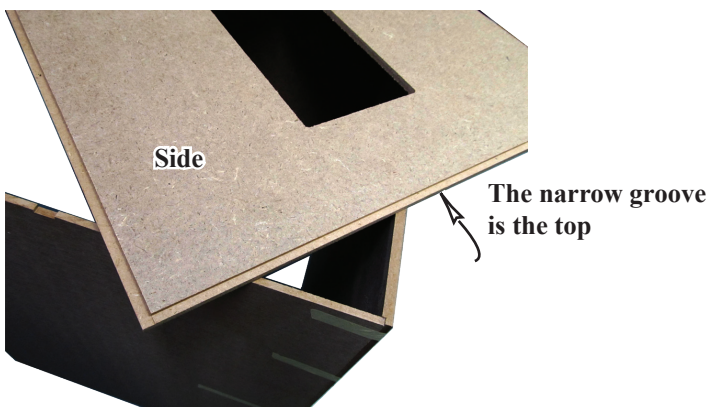


Taping: Use enough tape so you can stick it down and still have length enough to stretch the tape on both sides of the joint... then rub the tape down for good adhesion.

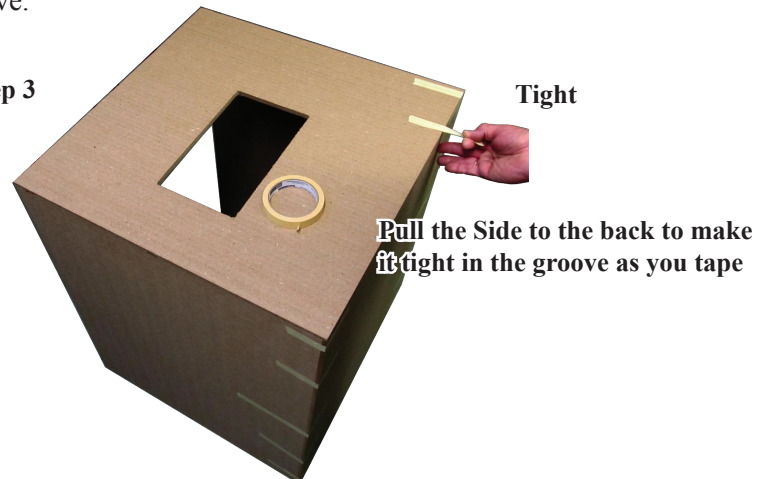
2. Glue and tape the Ceiling Liner to the Back. The Electrification Slots in the Ceiling Liner allow ceiling-light installation above the ceiling (which some builders prefer)... you can decide where the slots go or ignore them if you aren't going to wire.



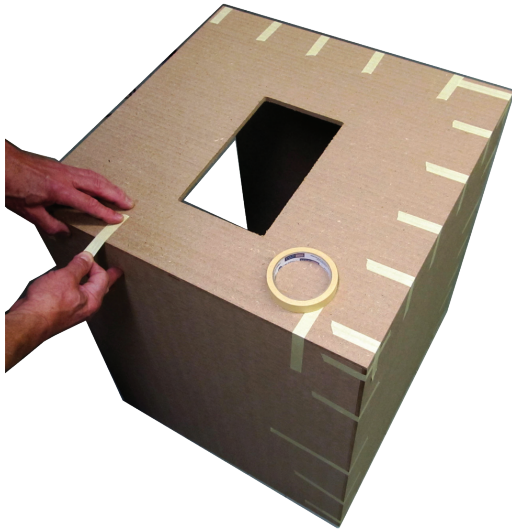
3. The Sides are Left or Right - pick the one for the end of the assembly that is up. Glue and tape a Side to the assembly, tight in the back groove.



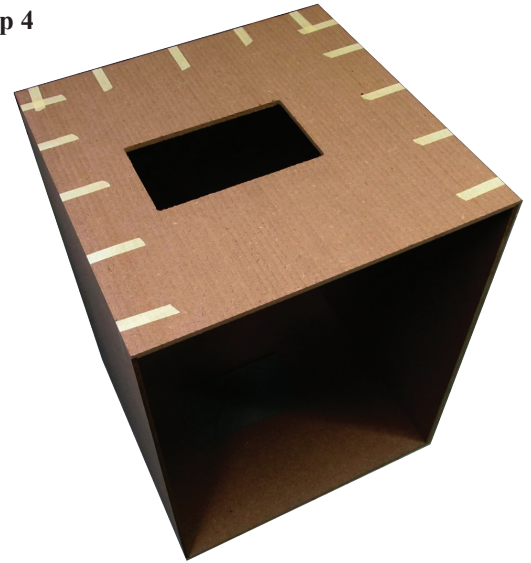
Step 3



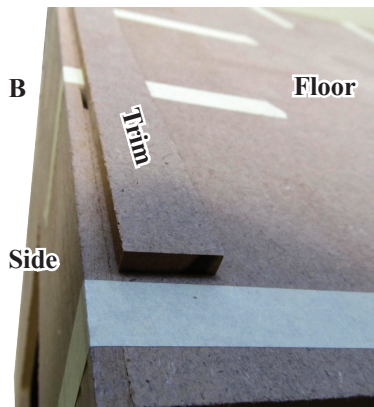
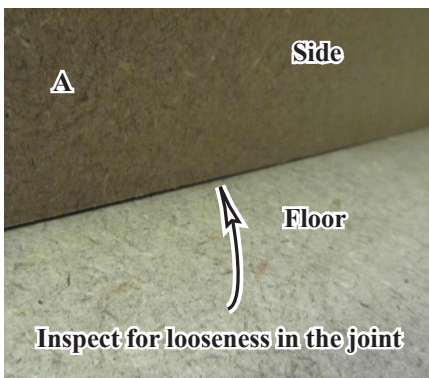
4. Turn the assembly over.
Glue and tape the other Side to the assembly.



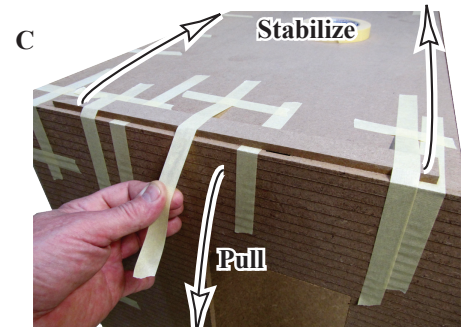
Step 4



5. Inspect the joints and tighten if necessary... these photos show one good way to hold a joint tight while the glue dries - Once the glue is dry the shape will be permanent.



A piece of Trim sitting on the Floor only, not overlapping the Side



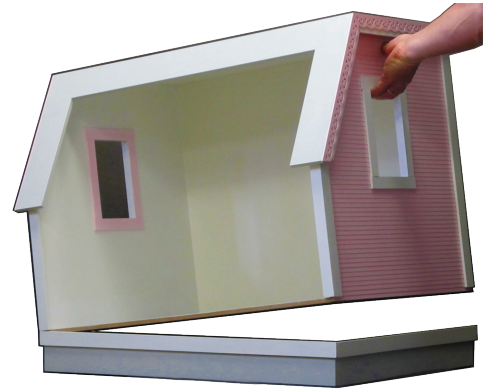
Tape the Trim so it won't slip, Press the looseness tight, then pull a strap of tape firmly to hold it there - rub it down.

Let the glue dry.

Note: Many of these photos are of a temporary build (tape only) and the tape stayed on throughout the build, but you should take your tape off when the glue is dry.

If the Foundation isn't glued to the Floor, and the Trim is glued to the Foundation only, lift off the house and skip this page 😊.

☐ 6. If the Foundation is glued to the House on the "My Dreamhouse" it will have to be removed. To do this you will use a heat source (hot-air gun, hair dryer, heat lamp, iron if the parts aren't painted) and a slender spatula (shown is a cake icing knife). This is a slow process so set aside an hour or more so you won't get impatient with your progress.



A. Remove the Floor Trim and the Horizontal Trim



B. Separate the Floor from the Foundation around the edges



Keep the heat source moving so the surface never gets too hot to touch

Hot-air gun or hair dryer keeps the knife hot



C. Separate the Middle Foundations



The key is to heat slowly, to let the heat penetrate to the glue, and to stretch and cut the glue with the hot knife. Keep moving the heat source so the surface of the wood doesn't get too hot (if it's painted, it takes longer still because heat too-hot-to-touch can scorch the paint), keep heating the knife and moving it along the glue joint. Take it easy and keep at it... you will triumph! If a helper is available, consider an iron and a hot air gun working together to provide more heat.

D. Scrape the old glue off with a knife or furniture scraper. Continue heating with hot-air for easier scraping.



Furniture Scraper



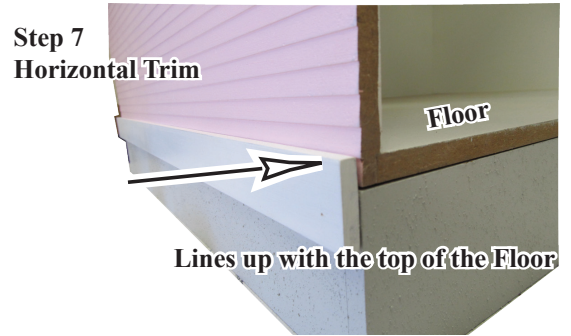
Stack all the levels of your house on the Foundation, lined up on the corners.

7. Attach Trim:

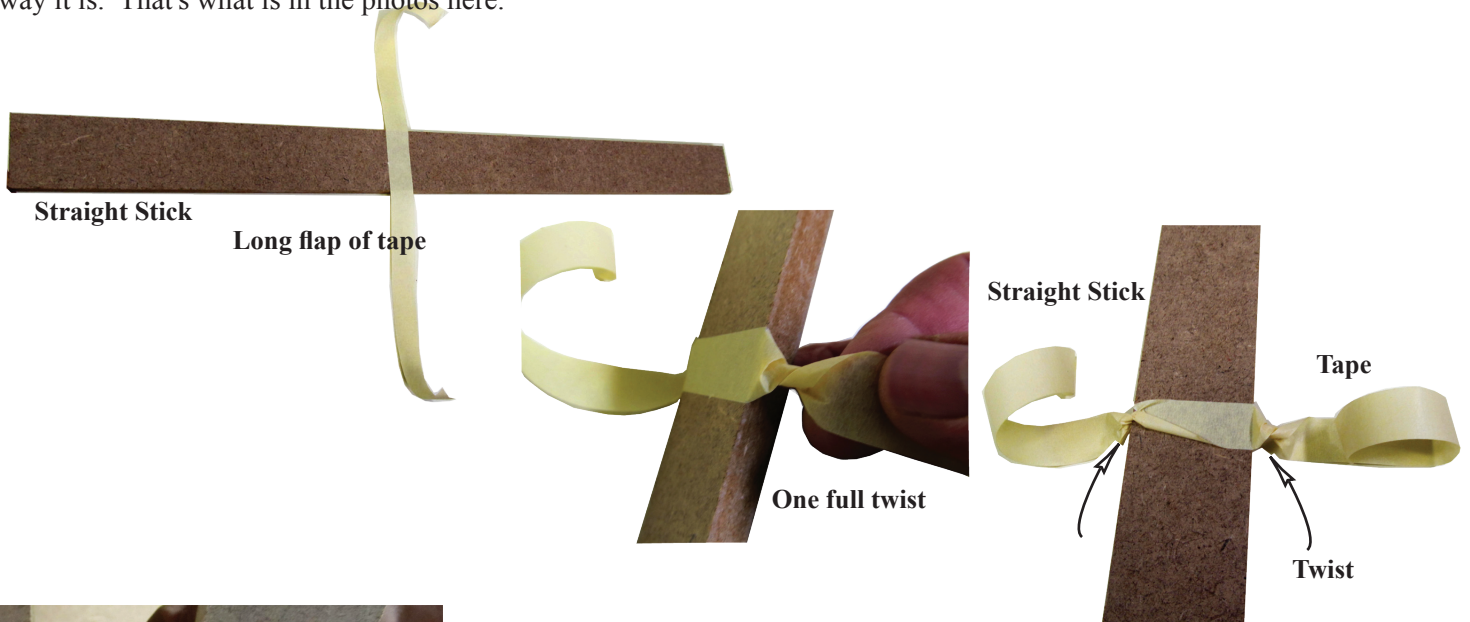
Glue and tape the Horizontal Trim to the Foundation only*, lined up with the Floor on top, and straight front-to-back (use the clapboard profile to make it exactly straight).

If the Trim bows inward, tape may be all that's necessary to hold the Trim tight while the glue dries, but if it bellies out in the middle, use a Straight Stick¹ taped thru the windows to hold the Trim flat.

¹As I look around my workshop for a handy *straight stick*, I see a metal yard stick, some scraps left over from a previous project, and a broom handle. I could use the yard stick or broom handle if I moved the dollhouse to the edge of the table, but the scrap I can use just the way it is. That's what is in the photos here.



***gluing only to the lower level allows the house to be taken apart for transportation or wiring.**



**Keep the tape twisted
Tape thru the window**



**Pull the Stick tight
Rub the tape down on the inside**



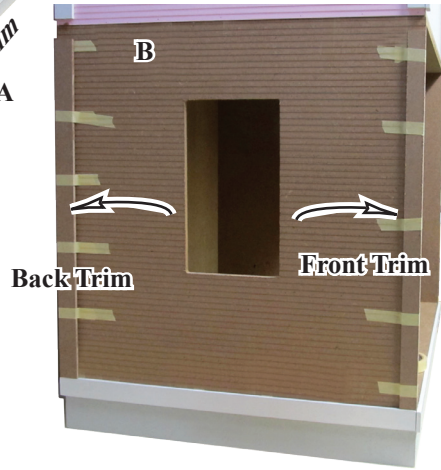
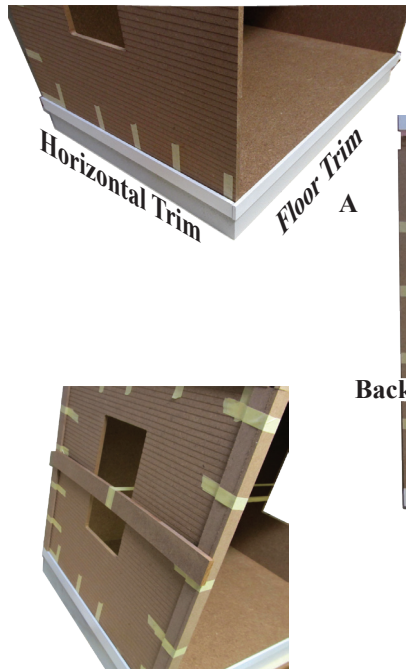
**The Stick puts pressure on
the middle of the Trim**

Another Stick and more twisted tape will apply more pressure if you need more to hold the Trim tight.

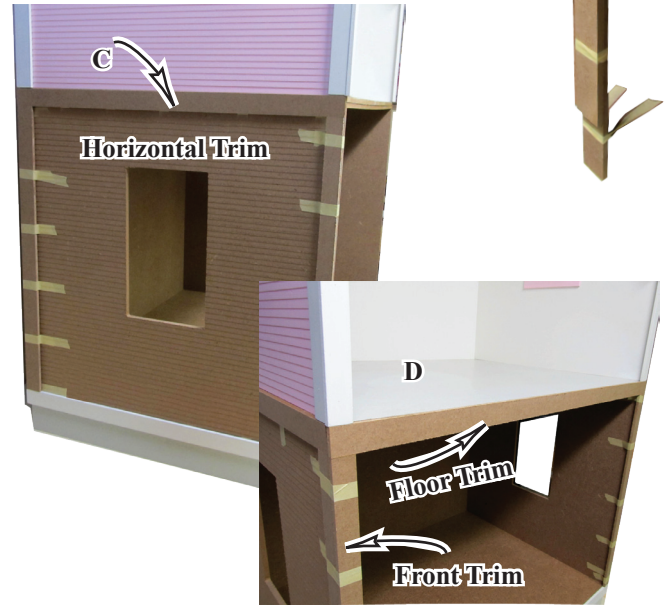
**Repeat for the other side
Let the glue dry**

8A. Glue and tape the Floor Trim to the Foundation only*. A *Straight Stick* (or a collection of Straight Sticks) can be taped to the Floor if pressure is needed to pull the Floor Trim flat.

B. Glue and tape a Back Trim to the House Side, lined up in back, and a Front Trim lined up in front. Let the glue dry.



*gluing only to the lower level allows the house to be taken apart for transportation or wiring.

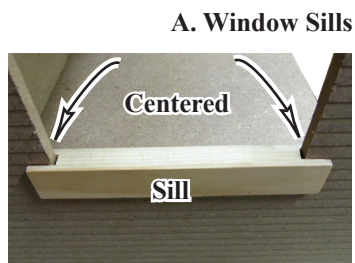


8C. Glue and tape the next floor's Horizontal Trim to the Side.
 D. Glue and tape the front's Front Trim and the next floor's Floor Trim to this floor's Side and Ceiling Liner*

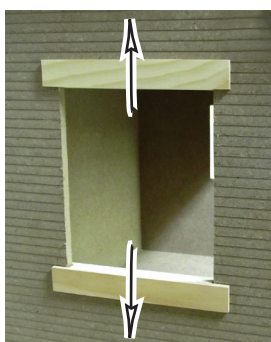
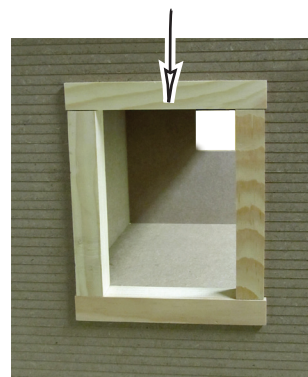
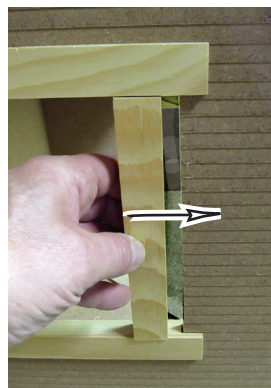
Let the glue dry

9. Test the window parts before using glue - clean as necessary.

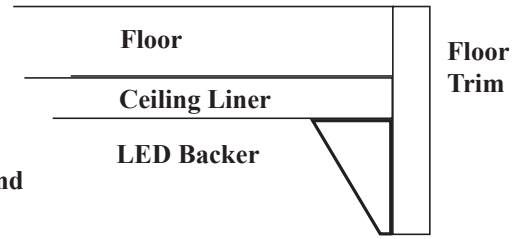
A. Glue the Window Sills into the cutout, centered side-to-side.
 B. Glue the Window Sides into the cutout. Push all the way out.
 C. Press down on the top Window Sill to tighten the fit.
 Repeat for the other window



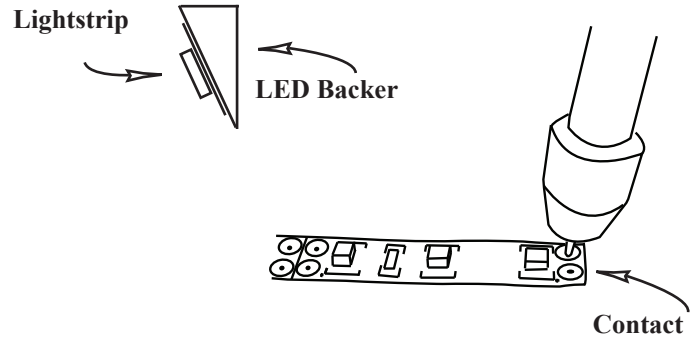
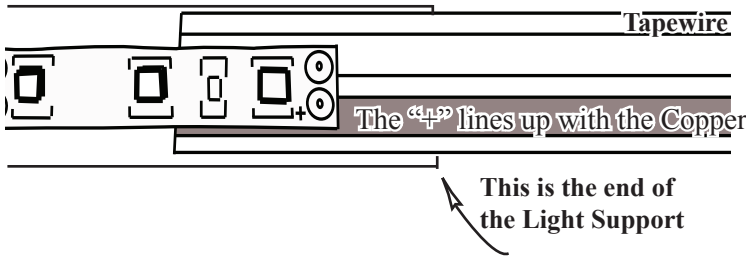
B. Window Sides



□ 10. LED Backers: Glue and tape the LED Backers together end-to-end and to the Ceiling Liner and Floor Trim, centered side-to-side.



If you wire your dollhouse with tapewire and illuminate with ExtraBrite LEDs on the Backer, Run Tapewire on the Backer pair before gluing it to the house, and eyelet the LED strip to the tapewire. Make sure the "+" side of the LED strip lines up with the "+" side of the tapewire



That's it. The "build" part of the project is done!

... a few notes on wiring (and shameless promotion of some really great products)
See www.realgoodtoys.com and type "lighting" in the search box

◆ The angle of the LED Backer is ideal for mounting ExtraBrite™ LEDs to light up your Dreamhouse®. Warm-White or Pure-White LEDs: get 30" sections to add excitement and realism to each floor of your house.

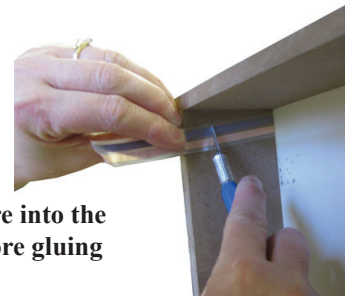
◆ If you add rooms to your dollhouse be sure to put the electrification slots in the same place so they line up with each other from-floor-to-floor.

◆ As you run tapewire, you must glue the sections of your dollhouse together. For this reason, it is most convenient to add as many rooms as you intend before doing the wiring.

RGT Wiring sets come with a Pre-Wired jack for the most robust and subtle connection



Send a flap of tapewire into the foundation space before gluing on the foundation



E224 Box Lighting



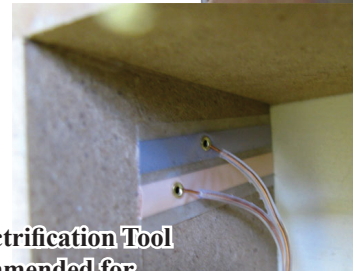
E225 Recessed Lighting



E226 Valance Lighting



Real Good Toys' Electrification Tool is the only tool recommended for this kind of wiring, and it's included in the 6888 and 7999 sets



Light-It-Up™

Extra-Brite™ LEDs will light up your rooms just like the lights in your home do. Along with Light-It-Up™ lighting products they look good, and they fill the room with light.

Extra-Brite™ LEDs



