

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. A snap-lid box will keep your tools and supplies handy between building sessions. Preview the Overview (page 5) 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



Items used in this build that are available at www.realgoodtoys.com:

- Dye-1** (reddish brown), **Dye-3** (dark grey) for shingles or logs
- 5408-10 Double-Cut Coarse File** for shaping logs and window cutouts
- Mini Paint Roller** for interior painting
- Aleene's Tacky Glue** for housebody construction
- #6888 Best1 Wiring Set:** it has what you need to wire this house

Other tools and supplies used in this builds:

- Paint, stain, and painting supplies: 1" foam brushes for each color of paint or stain,
- Sandpaper: 120/150 and 220/320 grit, 3-5 sheets,
- Trays or box-tops (see your local office supply store for 4 or 5 lids from the boxes reams of paper come in)
- Hot-melt glue gun and glue or solvent-based cement for Logs and Shingles (see page 12)
- Masking tape: 3/4" or 1" - select high-adhesion masking tape; #19 rubber bands
- Razor saw, utility knife (also called "drywall knife"), 24" ruler and a pencil.

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

Accessories for the Adirondack Cabin

See your local dollhouse shop or www.realgoodtoys.com

Accessories:

- Gingerbread
- Flower Boxes
- Foundation Stucco Grit
- Octagonal Shingles
- Fancy Windows and Doors
- Turnposts and Spindles

Interior:

- Wiring
- Wallpaper

Interior paint color:

- Ceilings
- Painted walls
- Interior trim

Flooring:

- Applied wood, tile, or carpet
- Banister & Landing Rails
- Window and Door trim
- Baseboard and Crown
- Fancy Stairs



JM44 Extension



E1640 Conservatory

C50 Chimney



Windows: Openings fit standard-size; working or non-working*
(requires interior trim customization)



JQ13W



#5042-c



#5041-c



5025
Louvered
Shutters

Hand-Split Octagonal Shingles

Red Cedar: HOC350

White Pine:
HOW500



Doors*:

Exterior

Interior



#6002



#6018



#6022



#1015

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

Shingle Dye

Dye-1: Reddish Brown
Dye-3: Dark Grey



Stucco Mix



T-10
Turntable



T250 Assembled Turntable

T10: 12" Turntable
T250: Assembled Turntable
ET250: Wired Turntable



Real Good Toys' Best!
Dollhouse Wiring Set

Tapewire or Roundwire powered
"Light-It-Up" LED Lighting

E224



E225



E226

DH



A Doghouse for your Dollhouse

A Dollhouse for your Dollhouse



6452M:
Cherrydale Mini



6448M:
Kiwi Mini

RGT5
Porch
Post



Wallpaper
P2000
HH444

Trim and Stripwood

RGT8
Spindle



Flute24



SW16



B Rail



SW16



Battery powered LED Lighting



HW2301



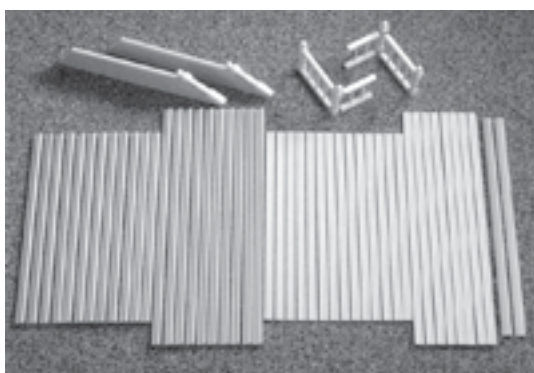
HW2326



J-FK
Banister/Newel
Turned Landing Rails
Baseboard Molding
Crown Molding

4017 Pine Stair
and Landing Set

6803 Banister
& Landing Set



Tools, Accessories, Supplies, and Miniatures:
visit www.realgoodtoys.com

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.

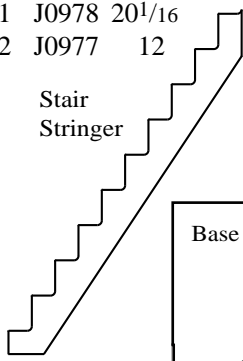
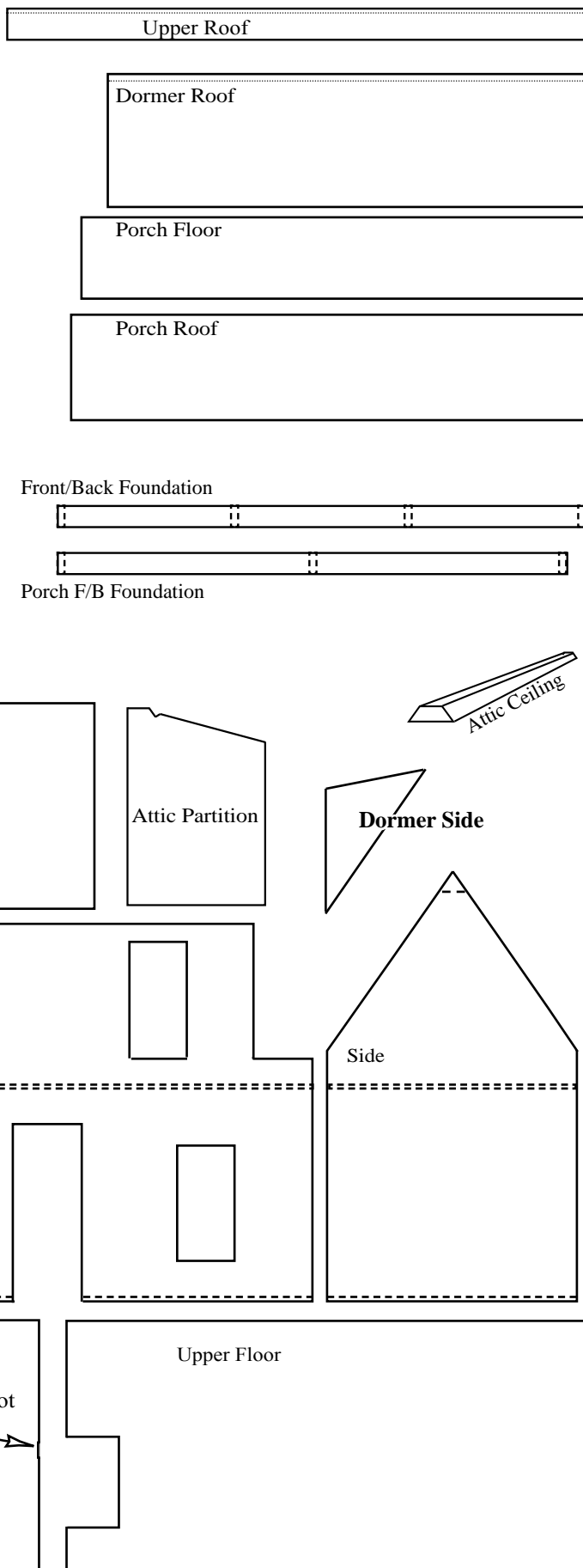
Drawings are not all the same scale.

Parts: Measurements are approximate (for parts identification only)

- 1) J0961 Front: (1/4) 16¹/₂ x 23, Window and Door cutouts
- 2) J0962 Side: (1/4) 18⁵/₈ x 10⁷/₈, Grooved, Peaked.
- 2) J0963 Dormer Side: (1/4) 6²¹/₃₂ x 4¹¹/₁₆ Triangle
- 1) J0835 Base Floor: (1/4) 22⁵/₈ x 10¹⁵/₁₆
- 1) J0836 Mid Floor: (1/4) 22⁵/₈ x 10¹⁵/₁₆, Stair hole
- 1) J0838 Divider: (1/4) 9 x 10⁷/₈, Door cutout
- 1) J0839 Attic Partition: (1/4) 8⁹/₃₂ x 5²⁹/₃₂ Shaped
- 1) J0848 Attic Ceiling: (3/8) 22⁵/₈ x 1¹/₁₆, Beveled
- 2) J0834 Upper Roof: (1/4) 23⁷/₈ x 1¹/₂, Beveled
- 2) J0840 Front Eave: (1/4) 3 x 9¹/₈
- 2) J0841 Rear Eave: (1/4) 1¹/₂ x 9³/₈
- 1) J0837 Dormer Roof: (1/4) 19⁵/₈ x 5⁷/₈, Beveled
- 2) J0964 Front/Back Foundation: (3/8) 23 x 1¹/₄ Grooves
- 4) J0965 Middle Foundation: (3/8) 10⁵/₈ x 1¹/₄
- 2) J0846 Porch F/B Foundation: (3/8) 21¹/₈ x 1¹/₄ Grooves
- 3) J0847 Porch Mid Foundation: (3/8) 3²⁹/₃₂ x 1¹/₄
- 1) J0842 Porch Floor: (1/4) 21¹/₂ x 4³/₈
- 1) J0843 Porch Roof: (1/4) 22¹/₄ x 5³/₈
- 1) J0849 Chimney: (3/4) 1⁷/₈ x 3³/₄, Angled
- 5) J0966 Stripwood: (1/8 x 9/16) 23¹/₂
- 4) J0967 Porch Post: (9/16 x 9/16 rounded) 8
- 2) J0852 Stair Stringer: (5/32) Shaped
- 10) J0851 Stair Tread: (3/16 x 3/4) 2¹/₄
- 1) J0850 Step: (3/4) 1 x 4
- 8) J0980 Window Frame, Vertical: (L shaped) 5³/₈
- 8) J0981 Window Frame, Horizontal: (L shaped) 2⁷/₈
- 8) J0982 Window Interior Vert: (3/32 x 3/8) 5³/₈
- 8) J0983 Window Interior, Horz: (3/32 x 3/8) 2⁷/₈
- 4) E8157 Window Pane
- 1) J0860 Groove Fill: (1/16 x 1/4) 4
- 1) D0540 Door (Interior trim is with Window Trim)
- 1) T1004 650 Shingles:
- Large Log: (7/32 x 3/4 rounded)
- 8 J0968 24⁷/₃₂ (two are extra - just in case)
- 14 J0971 10¹⁷/₃₂
- 14 J0973 7¹/₁₆
- 12 J0974 4¹/₃₂
- 14 J0969 11²³/₃₂
- 14 J0970 11³/₃₂
- 24 J0972 8³/₁₆
- 44 J0979 3/8 "Nubs"
- Small Log: (7/32 x 9/16 rounded)
- 3 J0976 23¹/₂ (some is extra - just in case)
- 1 J0978 20¹/₁₆
- 2 J0977 12

OnLine Support: There are many photos of this house under construction as well as tips, techniques, and extra help with your dollhouse project:

www.realgoodtoys.help



Base Floor

Upper Floor

Electrification slot

The Electrification Slots in the Floors make it easier to run tape style wiring from floor to floor.

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
 Option: Faux-wood floor finish on the floors;
 Paint everything that will be painted - one coat only for now;
 Sand the paint until it is smooth, transparent,
 and some of the wood is showing through;
 Build the housebody up to the Roof;
 Apply Logs to the walls;
 Mark, paint, and attach the Roofs
 (don't glue on the Rear Roof yet);
 Build the Dormer;
 Apply Logs to the Dormer;
 Apply Nubs;
 Optional: Start the wiring;
 Foundation;
 Porch;
 Install the Divider and Attic Partition;
 Optional: Finish the wiring;
 Assemble, finish, and paint everything else;
 Finish the inside - attach the Rear Roof and Chimney;
 Finish the outside - trim and shingles.

Wiring? www.realgoodtoys.help

Click the buttons "J540" and then "Wiring"
 for wiring information specific to this house.

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 (and some will be used for logs and shingles), but they all have some trait that makes them un-desirable for the body of your dollhouse.

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 fabric glue or 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 Grandmother 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 toward 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 mighty distressing).

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 great big blacksmith's hands, and papering in a finished house is easy for me.

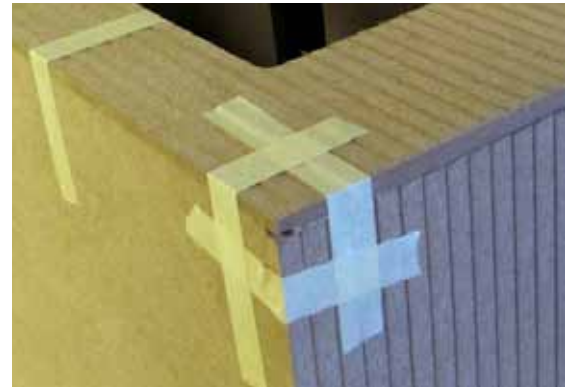
All that having been said, I do pre-cut the papers used in the attic and on the Attic Partition before attaching the Roofs.

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

- Use a **'high-adhesion' tape** ("high-tack"), not the easy-to-remove painter's tape.
- Use **enough tape** so you can start a distance from the joint and rub down several inches on the end, then...
- Stretch** the tape as you pull it across the joint.  **Rub** the tape down so it will remain tight while the glue dries.
- 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!



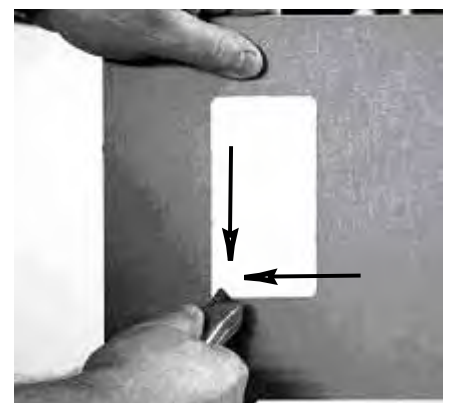
3-way tape on the corners

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.



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 and logs several days ahead of time so they will be dry when the time comes to use them (instructions are with the shingle dye). See also Page 8.



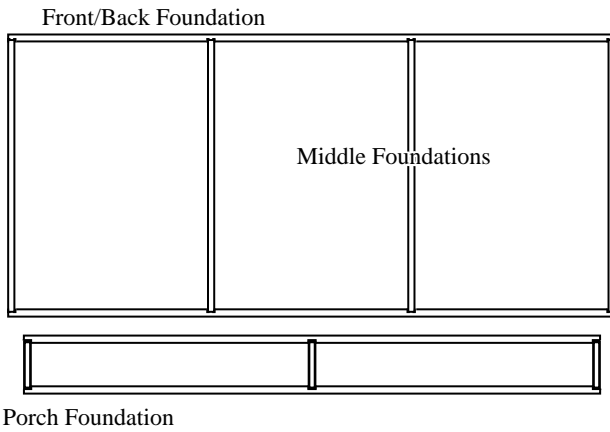
Demos and slideshows are at: www.realgoodtoys.help

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

Glue and tape together the Foundation sets.



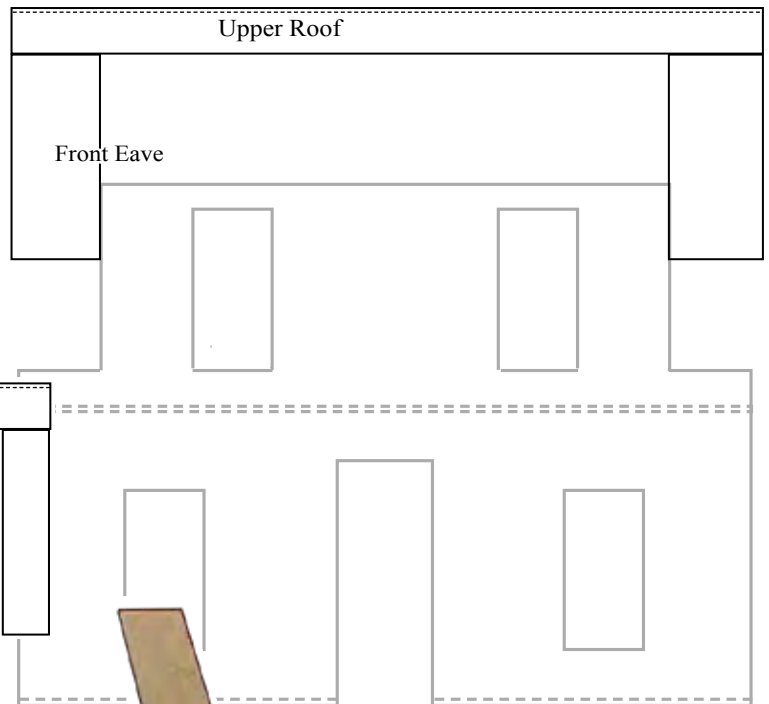
Temporary!
Without glue, line up the edges of the Foundation Sets with floors to keep them square as the glue dries.

Glue and tape together the Upper Roof and Eave Sets.
The Beveled edge of the Upper Roof goes up (away from the Eaves).

Test the Dormer Front between the Front Eaves to make sure the spacing is right

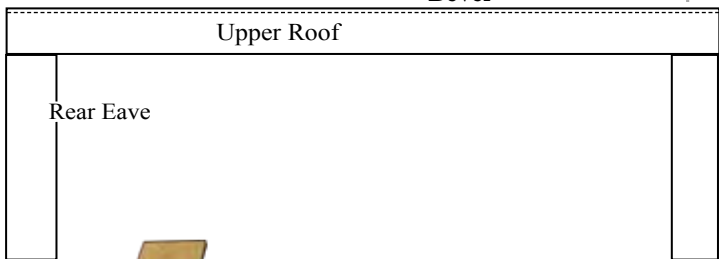
Front Roof Set

Bevel



Rear Roof Set

Bevel

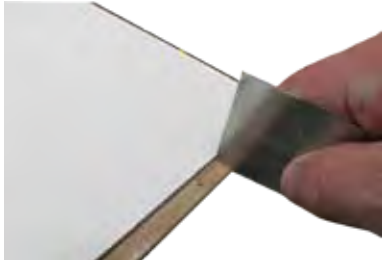


C: Painting: The order of assembly and painting is a back-and-forth process of test-assembly, marking, painting, and final assembly. There are three things to keep in mind as you do this:

- 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. Sand until the paint is smooth and transparent, and lots of the wood is showing.
- 2. Glue doesn't stick to paint.** Avoid painting edges, grooves, and areas that will be glued (like the outside of the roofs). Glue 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 down to the wood, 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 un-painted. 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 by painting). A spot for the Porch Posts will be scraped in the paint on the Porch Floor.

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

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.



Flooring: Applied flooring (wood or tile), carpet, or painted floors are completed after construction, but Faux-Wood Flooring must be done now.

See www.realgoodtoys.help for a **video**.

Stain the Logs

Protect your hands and any surface the dye or stain may touch... stain doesn't wash off of porous materials (like your skin).

My go-to colors are Real Good Toys Dye-1 Reddish Brown dye for the shingles, and Minwax Golden Oak or Early American Penetrating Stain for the logs, but other brands of stain can be equally good (red colors like cherry or redwood of any brand of stain are harder to manage). If you use "water clean-up" rubbing stain, take extra care to completely wipe anything that doesn't soak in from the surfaces of the logs before laying them out to dry.

Stain the logs several days ahead of time so they will be fully dry when the time comes to glue them to the house. Stain the rounded face and sides, and the ends, but not the flat bottoms of the Logs and Nubs.

Staining the Logs after attaching them to the house is possible, but any glue (any!) that squeezes to the outside will leave a blotch. I always stain first and that's what I recommend.



Faux-Wood Flooring



Stain the Logs.



Wipe off excess.



Lay them out to dry.

Assembly

Continue on to step 7 before letting the glue dry

“Front” is looking at the house from the street; “back” is the open side of the house; “left” and “right” are as though viewed from the front.

1. Spread glue in all the grooves of both Sides.
Stand the Sides and Upper Floor on edge.
Press the Upper Floor into the Sides’ upper grooves.



The stair hole can go on the left or on the right, but it must be closer to the front (up).



The Floors all stick out 1/16” in front (up).

2. The Floors stick out 1/16” past the Sides (this will fit into the grooves of the Front). Tape across the Sides above the front edges.

Tape →



The Floors all stick out 1/16” in front (up).

3. The Floors line up in back with the Sides (the edge on the Table). Tape the Base Floor firmly into the Sides’ bottom grooves.

**You may need more tape than this (see page 6).
Make sure the joints are tight.**

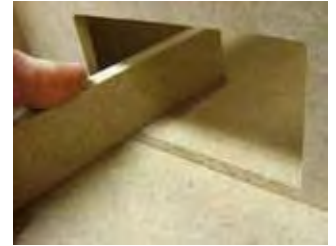
Note: My tape isn’t sticky enough and didn’t stay stretched for a tight joint so I ‘tabbed’ the ends to keep them tight.



Continue on to the next steps without letting the glue dry

4. Press the Groove Fill into the exposed groove within the Stair Hole. The Front Step is a handy block to push it flat with the surface of the wall.

Stair Hole



Groove Fill

Press the Groove Fill flat

Continue on to the next steps without letting the glue dry

5. Attach the Front

Spread glue in the grooves of the Front and on the front (up) edges of the Sides.

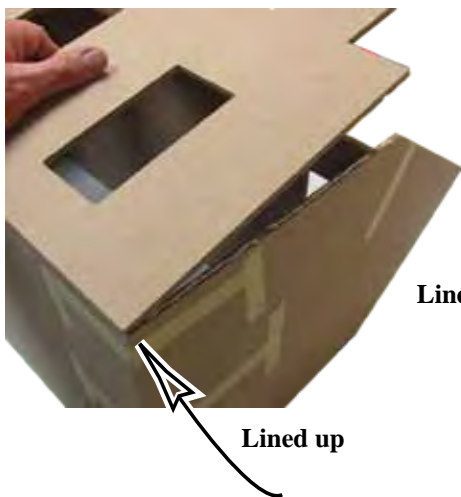


Spread glue in the grooves



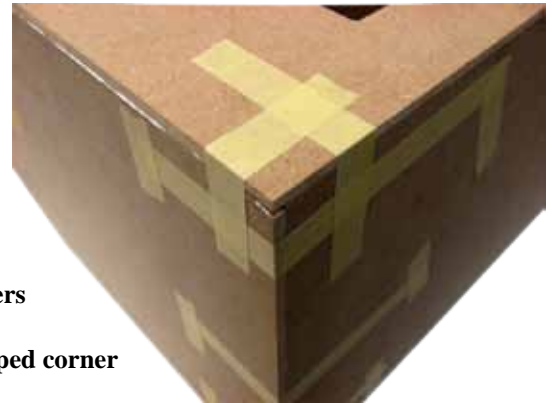
Spread glue on the front (up) edges of the Sides

A. Set the Front on the housebody lined up carefully side-to-side at the base.



Lined up

Line up the Base corners



A well taped corner

B. Tape all along the base. Make sure the Floor is all the way to the top of the groove.

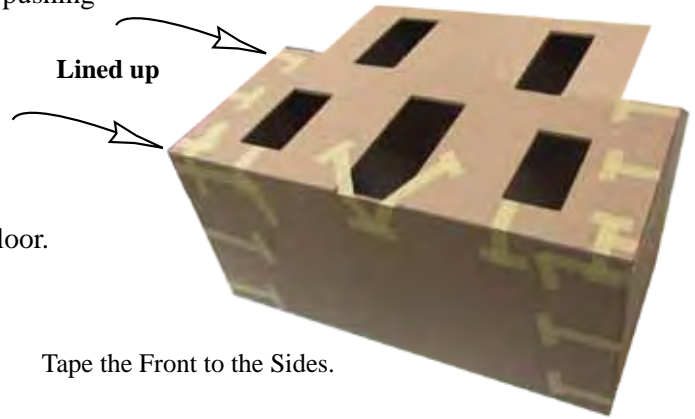
Tape inside the door cutout



Continue on to the next steps without letting the glue dry

C. Adjust the Housebody so the Sides and the Front line up evenly from bottom to top (this is the step that straightens the house... don't be shy about pushing the Sidewall back and forth until it lines up well).

Tape the Front firmly to the Sides.

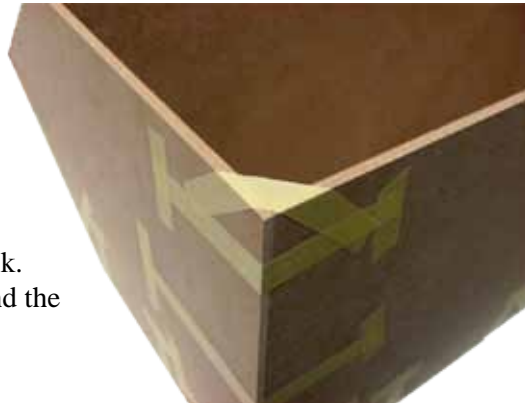


D. Tape thru the windows and Door to the back edges of the Floor.

Tape the Front to the Sides.



6. Tape the Sides to the Floors in back. For more pull, tape all the way around the house at each floor's level.



7. Stand the house on one end and add weights to the other end so there's good pressure in the middle of the glue joints.



Review: Check all joints to be sure they are tight. Clean up excess glue. Temporarily put the Divider between the Floors as the glue dries.

Let the glue dry!
Then take off the tape.

Attach the Logs

Glue: Tacky Glue (like “Aleene’s”), Hot Melt glue, Silicone (like “Goop”), Panel Cement (like “Liquid Nails *Porch and Deck* adhesive”), or Quick-Grip all can be used. I use a combination of Aleene’s and Hot-Melt.

Hot Melt glue is melted plastic that squirts out of a hot gun. Adhesion occurs when the glue gives heat to the surfaces to be glued, making the primary surface (the wall of your dollhouse), the secondary surface (the log), and the glue all above the melting temperature of the glue all at the same time - at the moment the joint is pressed together.

For this reason, high-temperature hot melt glue guns (yes, there are “low temperature” versions) generally stick better as they deliver more heat to the joint.

Additionally, when used for logs, the glue will hold better if applied in plump dots rather than a smear as it will cool less in the time it takes to position the log and press it down, so the glue will carry more heat to give the wall and the log.

Speed counts: Once you’ve put those plump dots where they are needed, the glue begins to cool, and the more heat in the glue, the better. So test the log in position, then put dots of Tacky Glue where the log is going, and *then* put plump dots of Hot Melt only where they are needed to hold the joint tight while the Tacky Glue dries.



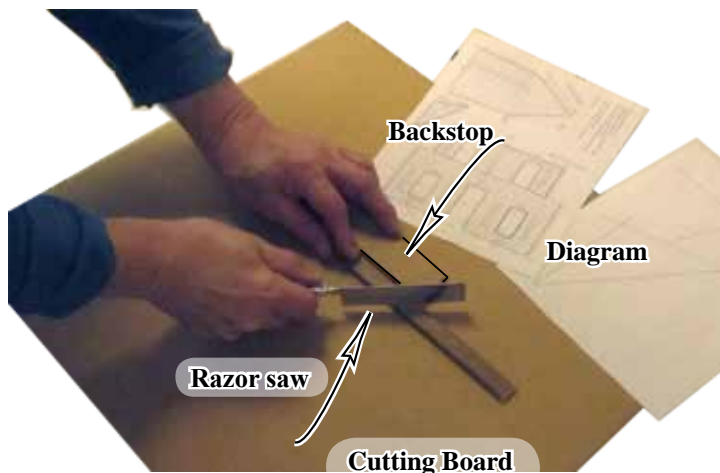
Finally, mixing dots of Tacky Glue and Hot-Melt glue gives the advantages of quick adhesion, permanent strength, economy, and a place to handle parts *where you won't get burned (very important!)*.

A plump dot of hot-melt glue



Tacky Glue

Make a cutting board with a backstop: Many of the log sizes are pre-cut, but many more will need cutting to fit the house. It is far easier to hold the log steady while you cut if you have something to push it against. A waste piece of plywood and a block of wood is great - but even a piece of the cardboard box the kit came in and a straight strip of the same cardboard glued to it will make your cutting tasks much easier.



Backstop

Diagram

Razor saw

Cutting Board

Use the layout diagram (at the end of the instructions - detach the page). It tells you not only where the pieces go but where to get the parts you will be cutting for the best yield. There is at least one extra of the longest log so you have a resource if something goes wrong, but start out following the suggestions and use the long log as back-up if necessary.

Organize your logs by length

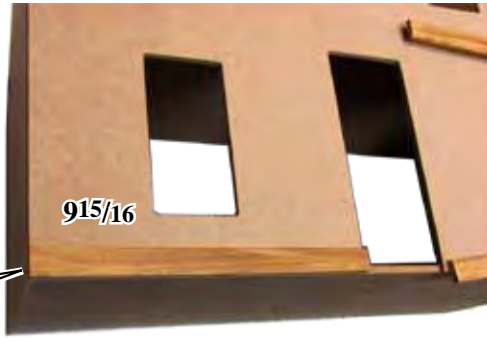


Now you're ready.



8A. Cut four of the 10^{17/32}” logs to 9^{15/16} to fit between the door and the edge of the Front. The door frame covers the ends of the logs, so the logs can line up with the side of the house, and can be a tiny bit short in the door.

Lines up on the side

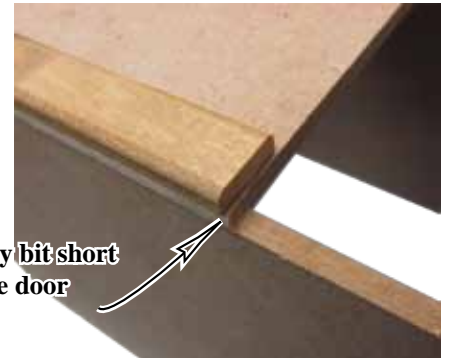


8B. Glue the Log to the Front, lined up carefully along the bottom and on the side.

Dots of glue



A tiny bit short in the door



8C. The left-front is shown but the right-front is the same and should be done at the same time. Each time you glue on a course of logs check the top to make sure they line up with each other.



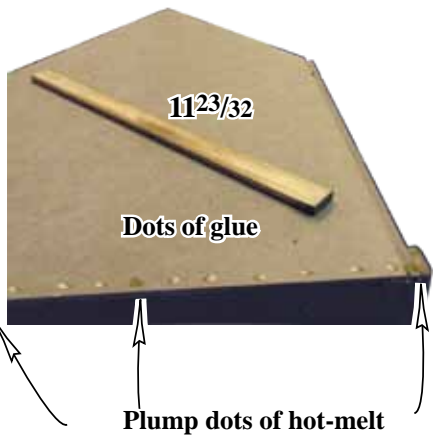
Complete and check every course before starting on the next-higher course

9A. Glue an 11^{23/32} Log (pre-cut) to the Side, lined up carefully at the bottom and in back; the front sticks out 3/8” past the log glued to the front.

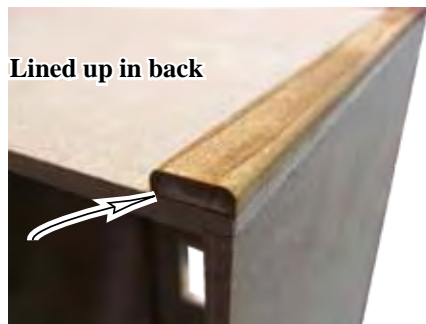
11^{23/32}

Dots of glue

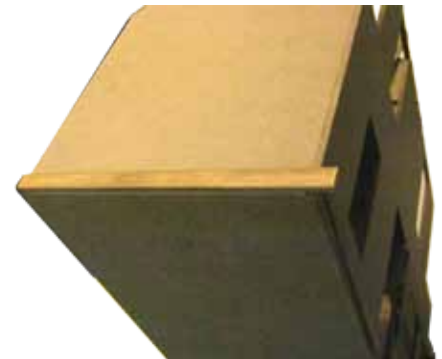
Plump dots of hot-melt



Lined up in back



Sticks out in front



9B. Repeat for the other side.

Introducing the “Nub”

This is a preview of Nubs which won't be glued on yet, but we don't want you to think these log ends are all done and start rounding them or staining them.



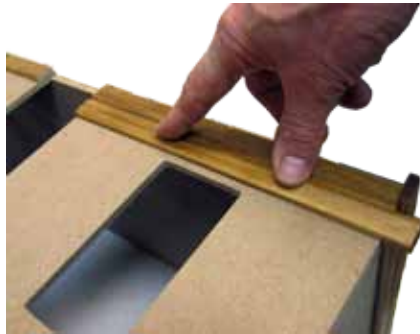
Nub



Nubs glue to the back of the logs that stick out and complete the rounded look.

10A. Glue an 11³/₃₂ Log (pre-cut) to the Side, lined up in back and tight to the next lower log. This log should line up or be a tiny bit short in front.

10B. Glue a 10¹⁷/₃₂ Log (pre-cut) to the front, lined up in the door and tight to the next lower log. This log should stick out 3/8" on the side.

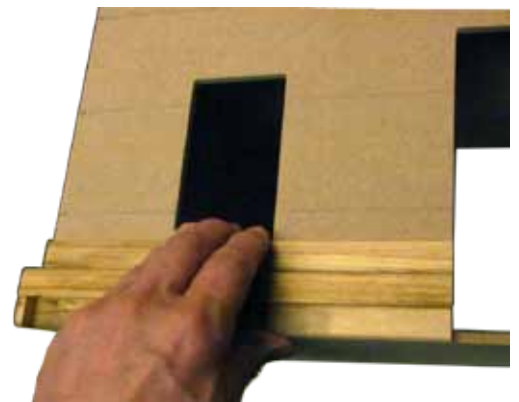


Sticks out 3/8"
Check with a Nub

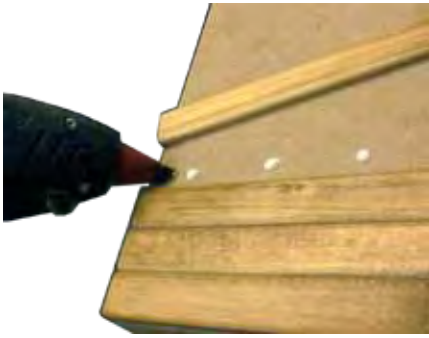
11A. Glue another 9¹⁵/₁₆ Log (you cut them in step 8) to the front, lined up at the side. This log will cover the bottom of the window cutout (the material in the window will be removed later).

B. Glue another 11²³/₃₂ Log to the Side, lined up in back and sticking out 3/8" in front.

C. Repeat for the other side, check to be sure the front and side logs are lining up with each other at the corner.



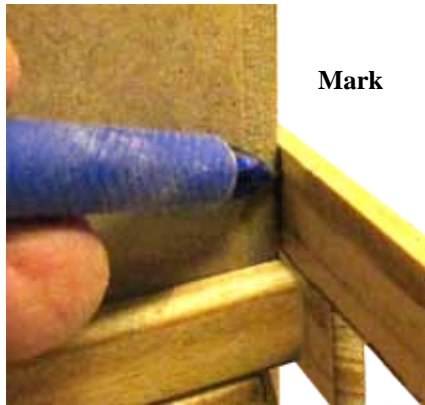
12. Continue up the wall with the logs sticking out $\frac{3}{8}$ " (the length of a Nub) first in front, then to the side... back and forth all the way up the wall for 14 courses.



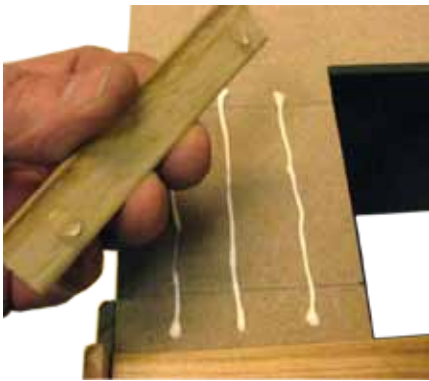
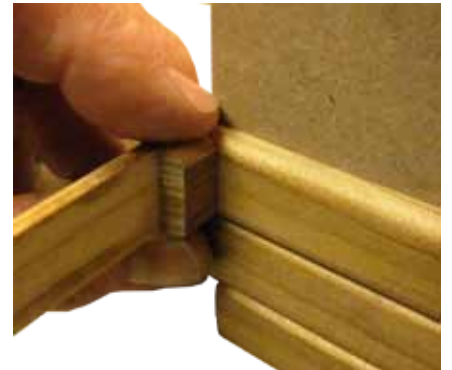
Follow the layout diagram (page 29) for the sizes to use ($\frac{41}{32}$ are pre-cut, $\frac{37}{8}$ are cut from $\frac{83}{16}$ Logs, and $\frac{39}{32}$ are cut from $\frac{71}{16}$ Logs)

Before you cut:

Do not depend on the ruler alone! Hold the log in place on the house and mark the length. For the logs that stick out, hold a Nub on the log and mark the length to the outside of the Nub. Once you have a length and have tested it to know it's right, use that piece to guide the saw for the rest of the pieces you need.



Check with a Nub



Glue



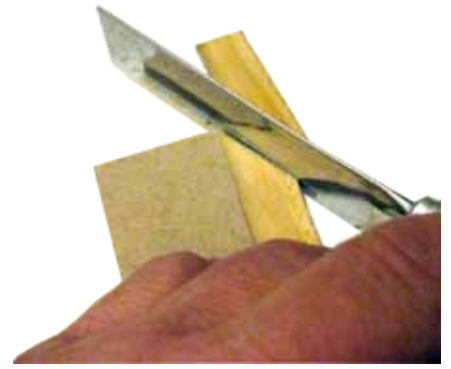
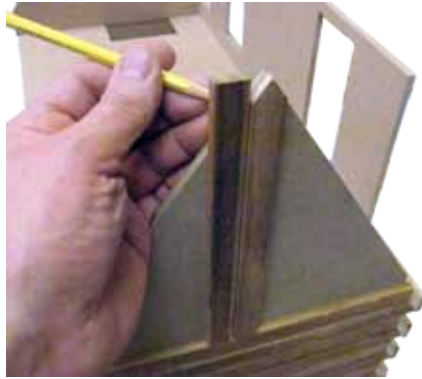
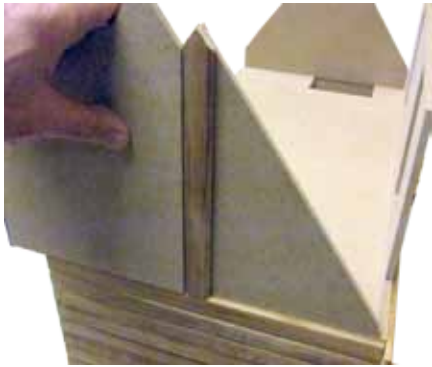
Check



Locate the $\frac{243}{16}$ Logs side-to-side by holding a nub on each end.

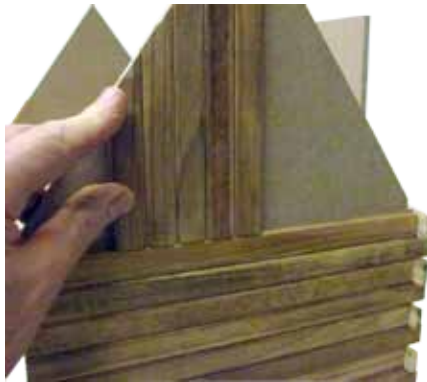
Stop at 14 courses

13A. Cut vertical logs from $8\frac{3}{16}$ logs. Mark and cut the first one to fit in the center of the peak. Cut the log slightly oversize; glue it in place straight and centered.
 B. Mark and cut a log to go next to it, slightly oversized. Glue the log in place.



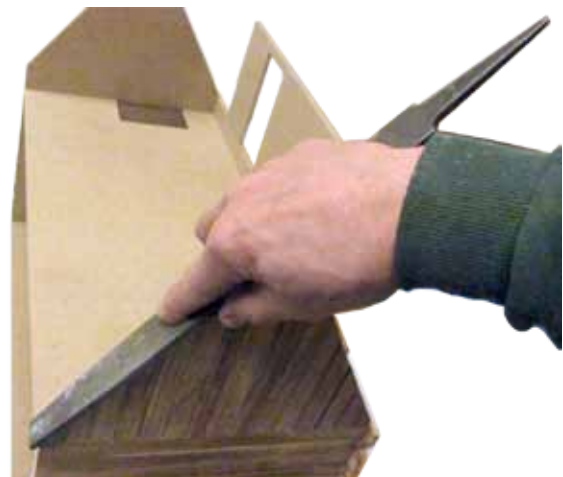
13C. Cut and attach 3 more logs (5 altogether); keep the offcuts.

D. Mark, cut, and glue on the offcuts. Each of the $8\frac{3}{16}$ logs used in "C" (above) yields two vertical logs.

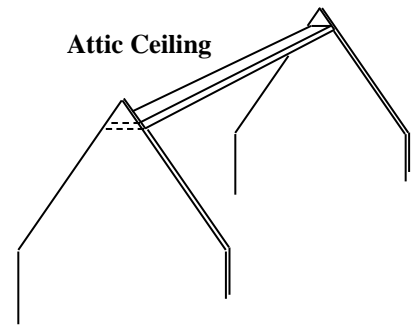
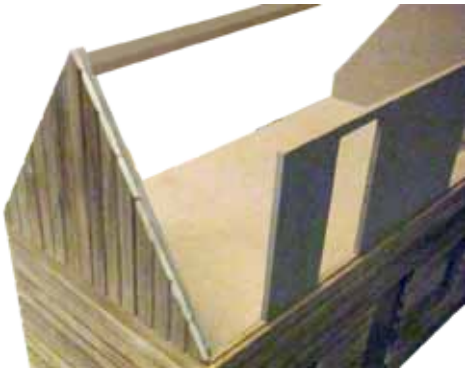


13E. Repeat for the other side of the Peak and for the other Side of the house.

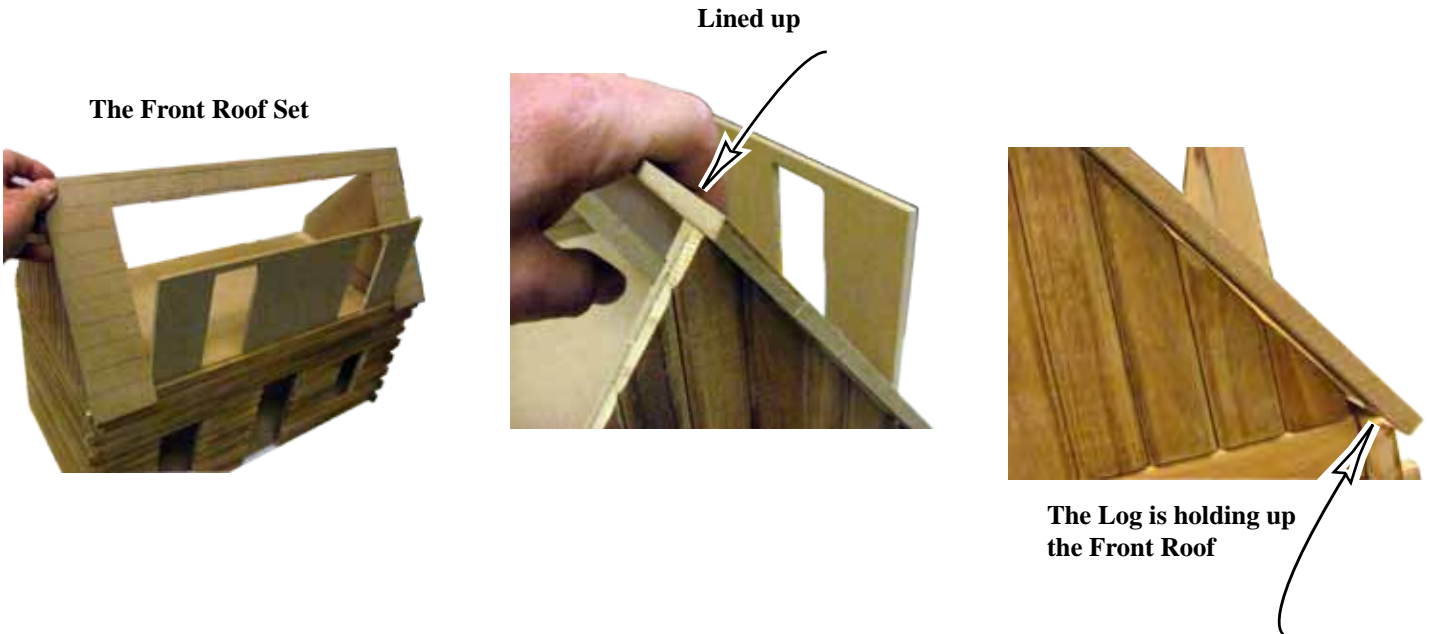
14. File the oversize logs to exactly match the Peaks.
 Use a coarse double-cut file.



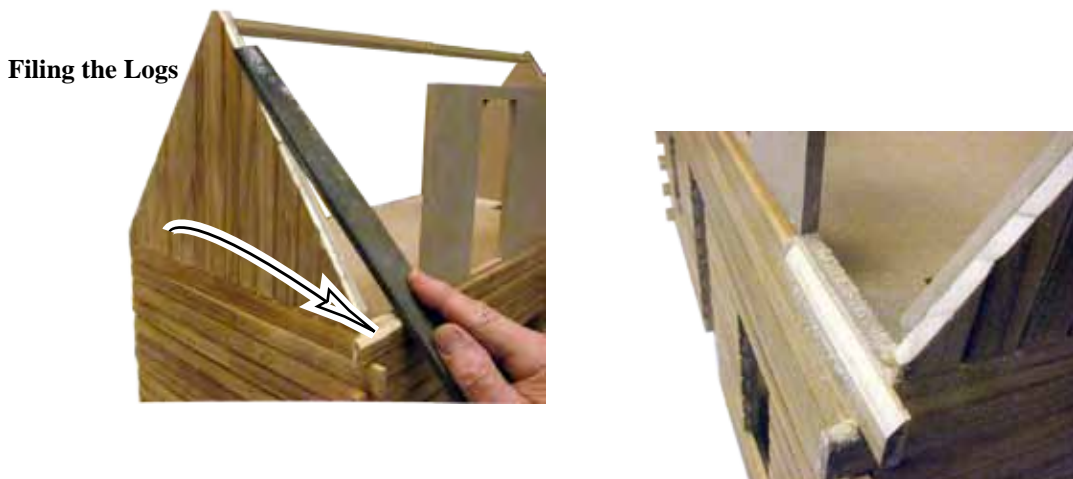
15. Glue and tape the Attic Ceiling into the groove at the peak; support it in the middle with the Attic Partition.



16A. Without glue, test the Front Roof set on the house, lined up on top with the peaks.

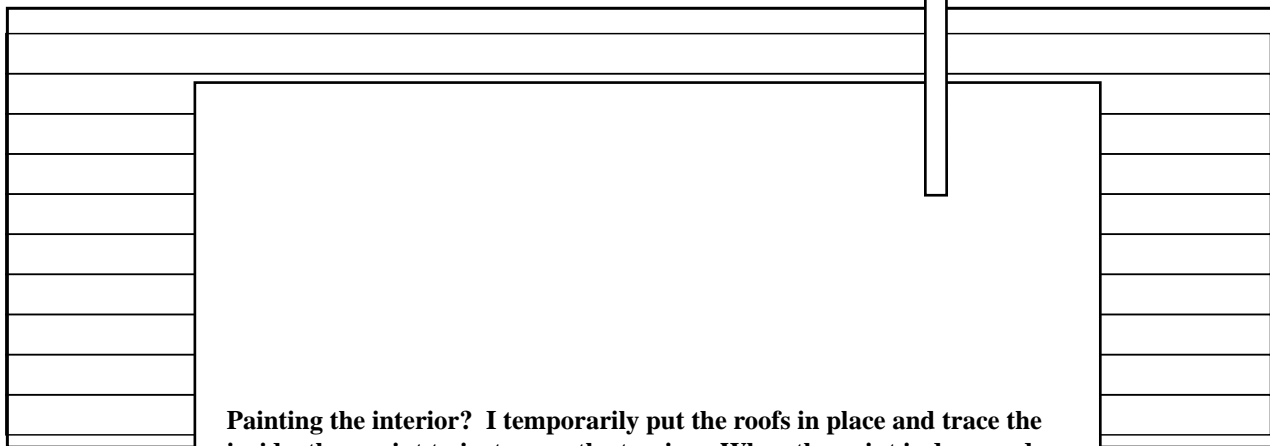
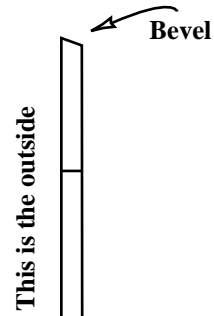


16B. If the logs lift the bottom edge of the Front Roof, file them at the Roof's angle until the Roof can sit all the way down on the Sidewalls.



17A. Identify the outside of each Roof: the outside is the larger side (the face of the bevel aims in). The Porch Roof is not beveled so either face can be the outside.

B. Draw shingle guidelines on the outside of the Front Roof and Rear Roof sets, on the Dormer Roof, and on the Porch Roof. Draw the first guideline $\frac{1}{4}$ " above the bottom edge if you will be using a "Starter Row", or $\frac{1}{2}$ " if you are copper flashing the dripedge (see "Shingle the Roof" page 28); draw the rest of the lines spaced 1" apart.

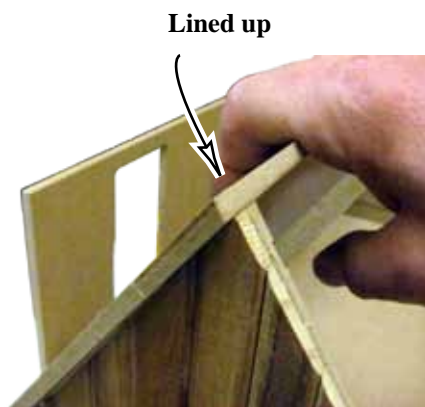


Painting the interior? I temporarily put the roofs in place and trace the inside, then paint to just cover the tracing. When the paint is dry, sand down to the wood so the Dividers' glue will hold, then assemble the roofs.

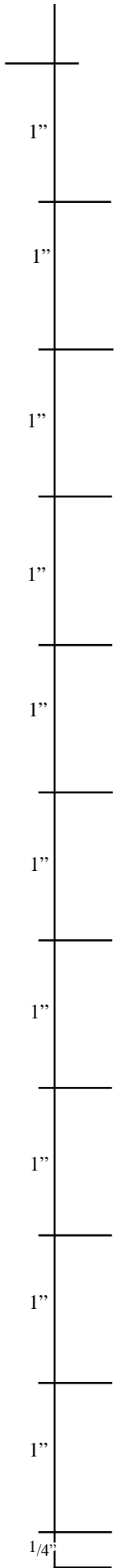
Place the Attic partition in the Dormer space, against the Front. Two people are useful for this step, or you can use the Attic Partition under one end of the Roof while you tape the other end.

18. Glue and tape the Front Roof set onto the house, lined up on top with the peaks.

Without glue, tape the Rear Roof Set to the Front Roof Set, with the Rear Roof overlapping the Front Roof. Do not glue the Rear Roof set to the house yet to make wiring and interior finishing easier.



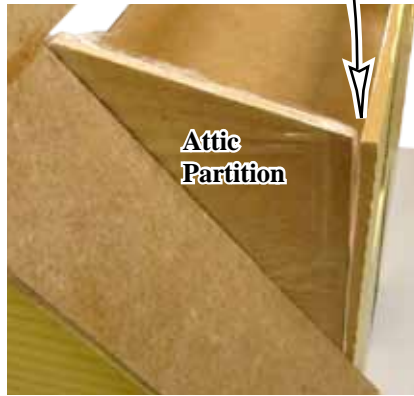
Let the glue dry



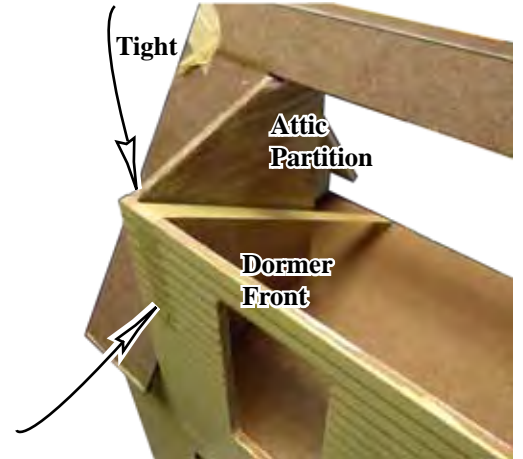
19A. Wrap plastic film (food wrap) around the Attic Partition so it won't get glued. Set the Attic Partition against one end of the Front Roof opening, touching the back of the Dormer Front.



Plastic wrap on the Attic Partition - avoid bunches and wrinkles



Before taping, the Dormer Front does not touch the Attic Partition all the way from floor to the top; after taping it does.



Tape the Dormer Front as necessary to hold it tight against the front edge of the Attic Partition all the way from the floor to the top.

19B. Test the Dormer Sides on the Front Roof and Dormer Front. Adjust the position of the Dormer Side (slide it up or down the roof) so that the top of the Dormer Side lines up exactly with the top-front corner of the Dormer Front. Adjust this fit carefully and test it with a block held on top of the Dormer Side.

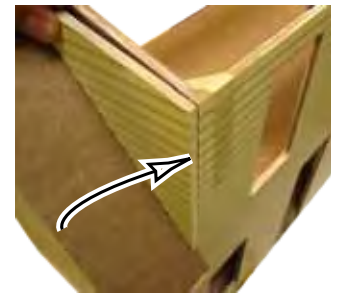
Check the fit of the front edge. If it is recessed or lined up with the front surface of the Dormer Front, rejoice! If it sticks out in front, file or trim it now.



Many light cuts

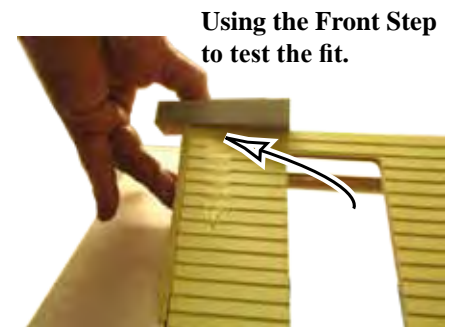
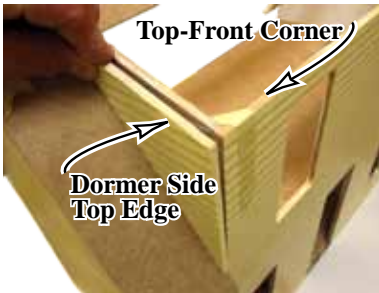


If the Dormer Side sticks out in front, file or trim it now



If the Dormer Side is recessed in front, proceed to step 12C

19C. Glue and tape the Dormer Sides to the Front Roof and to the Dormer Front. Adjust the position of the Dormer Side so that the top of the Dormer Side lines up exactly with the top-front corner of the Dormer Front. Do not be concerned with the fit of the front edge... that will be covered with Trim. Only fit the top.



Using the Front Step to test the fit.
Top-Front Corner of the Dormer Front and the Top of the Dormer Side

19D. Press the Attic Partition sideways so it is tight with the edge of the Front Roof, then push the Dormer Side up against it. Tape the Dormer Side to the Dormer Front and Front Roof.

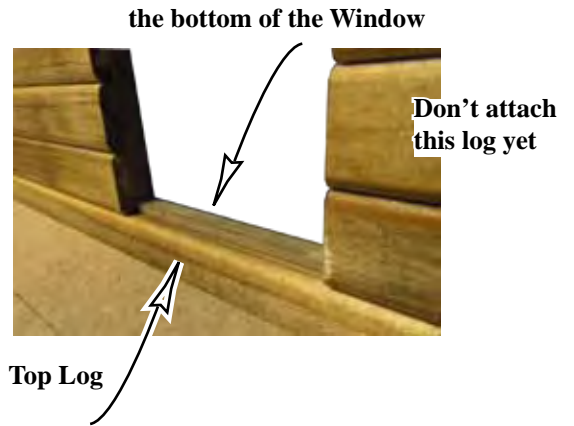


Let the glue dry - take off the tape

19E. Repeat for the other Dormer Side

Dormer Logs

The fit of the next course of logs on the Dormer Front can vary with changes in humidity, tiny variations in manufacture of the logs, or gluing technique. There may be a space between the top log and the bottom of the window, or the top log may cover the bottom of the window (either is OK). The Window Frame will cover up to 1/8", but if the void here is more than that, cut a long log to fit the entire surface between the Eaves (there's a section on "Carving Logs in the Windows" later). If the space is less than 1/8", cut the 2 13/16" logs from one 7 1/16" log.



20A. Cut and attach logs to the Dormer



Use the pattern to cut the back angle

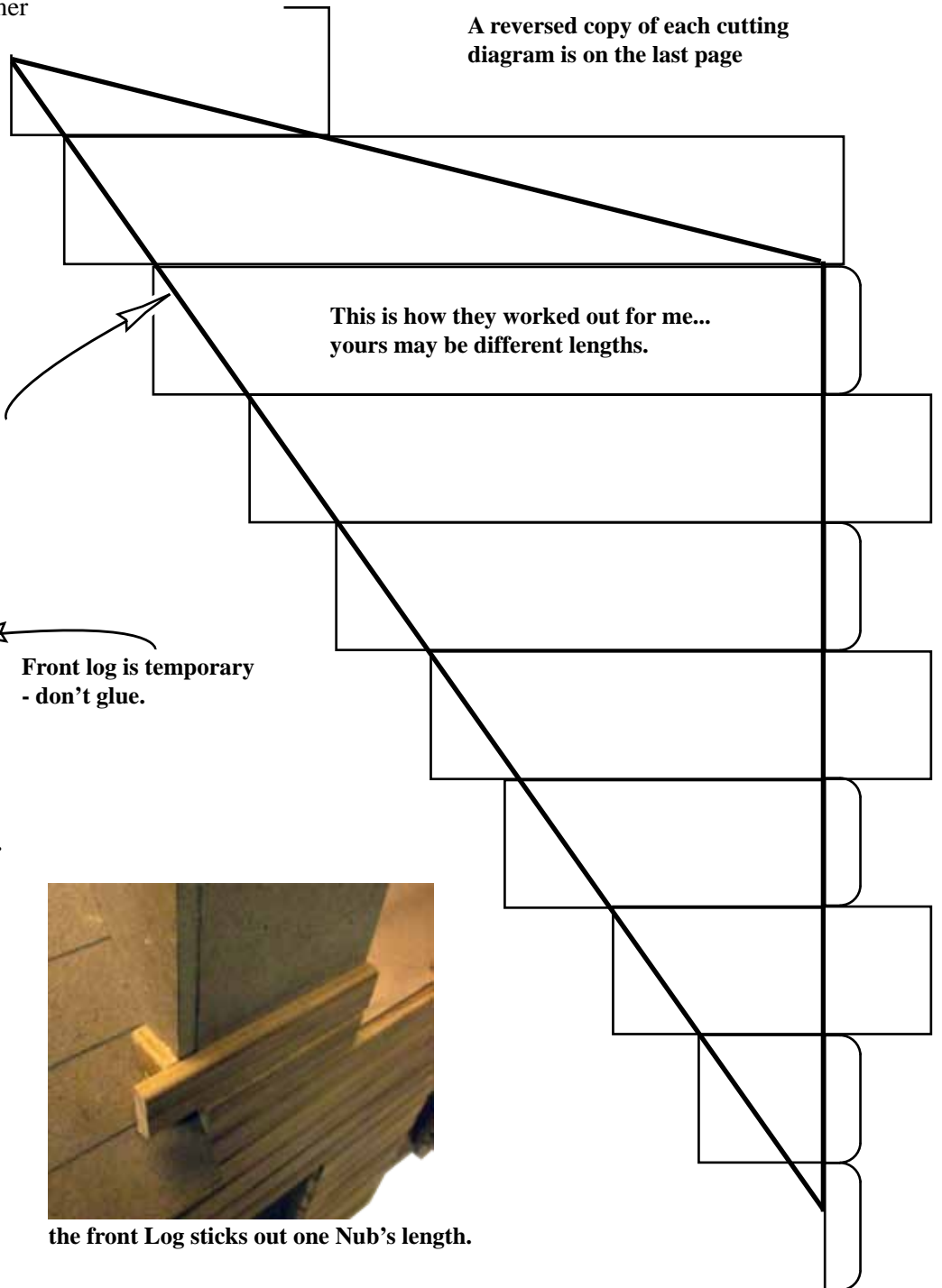
the 2nd course



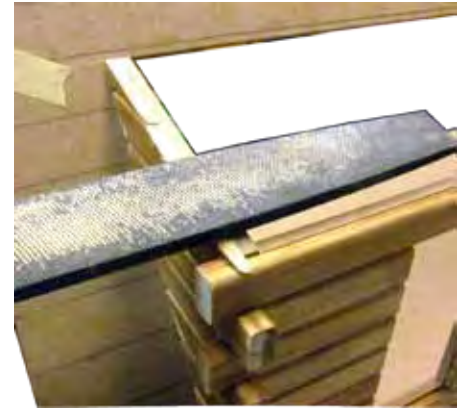
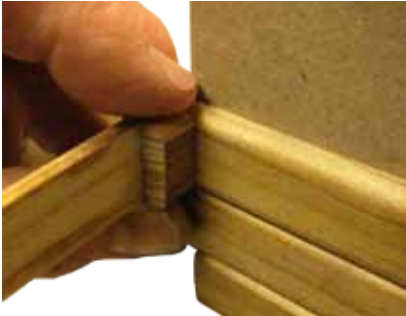
Temporary front log shows the height.



Mark and cut



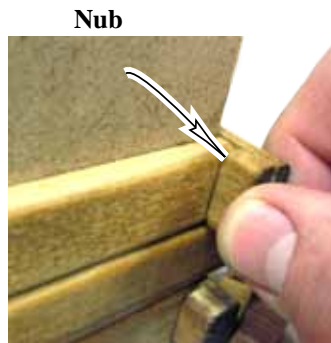
the front Log sticks out one Nub's length.



3rd course: The side log sticks out.

20B. Finish logging the Dormer, marking and cutting the logs, alternating the corners.

20C. When the glue is dry, cut and shape the top to fit.



Nub

21A. Glue Nubs to the back (flat) side of every log that sticks out. Let the glue dry.



21B. File and sand the ends



21C. Re-stain the ends; wipe off excess.

22. Carving Logs in the Windows and Door: Cut along the hole to the corner. Carve and file away the material in the

cutout until the window fits. Take small slivers instead of big chunks when you cut for more control and safety.



Saw



Utility knife



Thin slivers are best



File



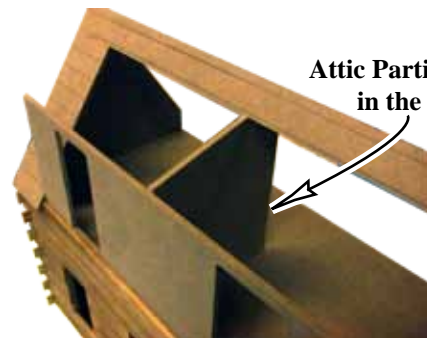
Window



Door

23. Set the Attic Partition in the center of the Dormer. Glue, tape, and weight the Dormer Roof to the house. Look inside at the front of the Attic Partition to make sure it touches the Front from bottom to top.

Dormer Roof, Centered

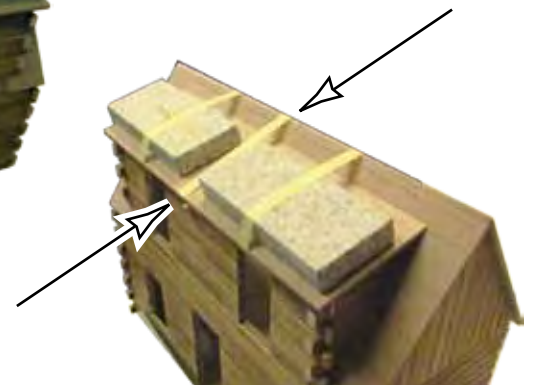


Attic Partition is in the center

Tape and Weight



Tape thru the windows, around the Dormer Roof and weights, and across the Front and Back Roofs.



Sight along the top of the Dormer Roof where it meets the house's Upper Roof: make sure it's straight. Don't let the Dormer Roof hump or sag. It doesn't expect to rest on the Attic Partition (The Attic Partition's job is holding the Dormer Front straight, not holding the Dormer roof up). The tightness of the tape helps control how straight the joint is.

Wiring?

Now is the best time to run the “main loop” of tapewire from underneath the Base Floor (leave a 2” flap) thru the electrification slots, up one sidewall, across the Attic Ceiling, down the other Sidewall, and back under the house, all in one piece

with no connections. When you put the house on the foundation, the tapewire will be accessible in the ‘cellar’ for a Jack or a wired turntable for the most robust, subtle, and convenient connection to house wiring.

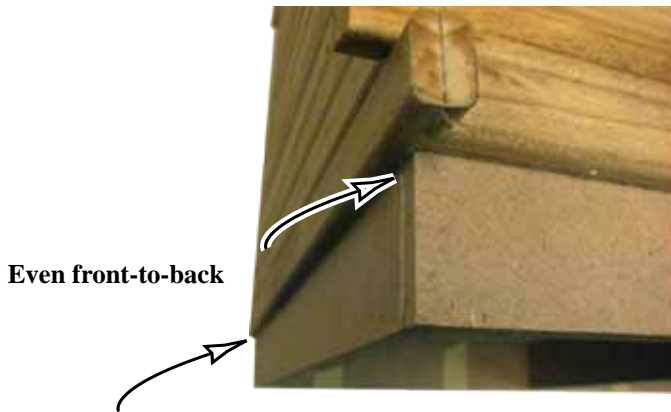
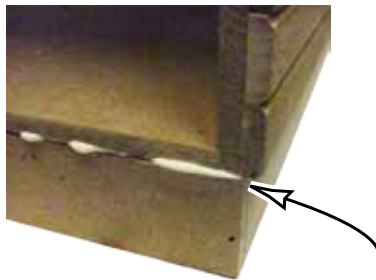
see www.realgoodtoys.help for more on wiring this house

Make sure your work surface is truly flat for the next steps.

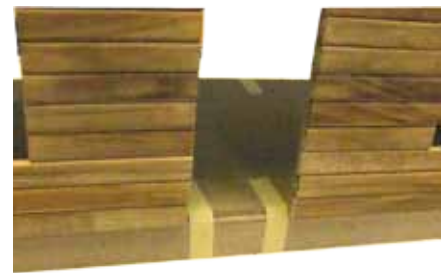
24A. Glue, tape, and weight the house to the Foundation, lined up in back and centered side-to-side. Check the front: centered side-to-side too. Tape thru the door. Let the glue dry.



Centered

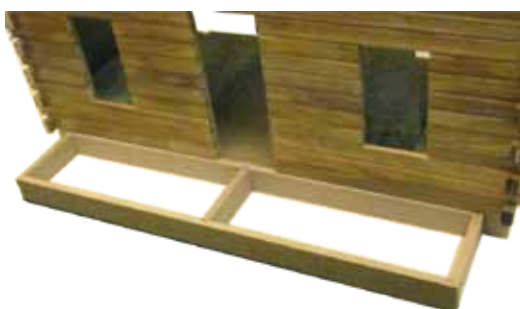


Even front-to-back



Tape

24B. Glue and tape the Porch Foundation to the House Foundation, centered side-to-side (15/16) Let the glue dry.



15/16

25A. Glue, tape, and weight the Porch Floor to the Porch Foundation and the house, centered side-to-side.

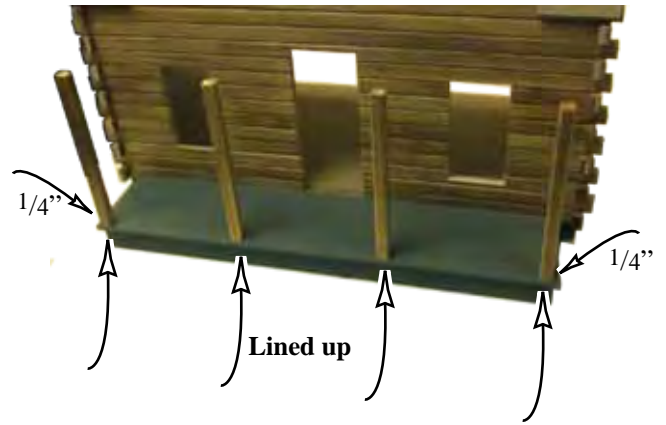
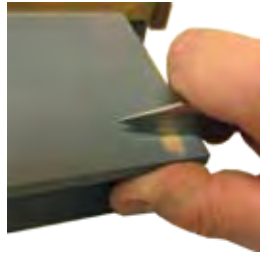
Let the glue dry.

B. Set up the Porch Posts lined up with the front edge of the Porch Floor, 1/4" from each side, and spaced evenly (6 1/4").

Mark the Posts' positions and scrape a bare spot within the marks for glue.

C. Glue the Posts at the marks, straight and square.

Let the glue dry.



26A. Cut two pieces of Porch Facia from a 10 17/32" Log, one with the angles facing right (rounded face up on this diagram), one facing left (rounded face down).

26B. Cut a Front Facia 21 1/2 from a long log. Glue and tape the Side Facia to the Front Facia, square and lined up on the ends. Let the glue dry.

C. Glue and weight the Porch Facia set to the bottom of the Porch Roof, spaced evenly at the sides and front (1/2"), and lined up at the back (diagram below). Let the glue dry.

45/8 on the edge

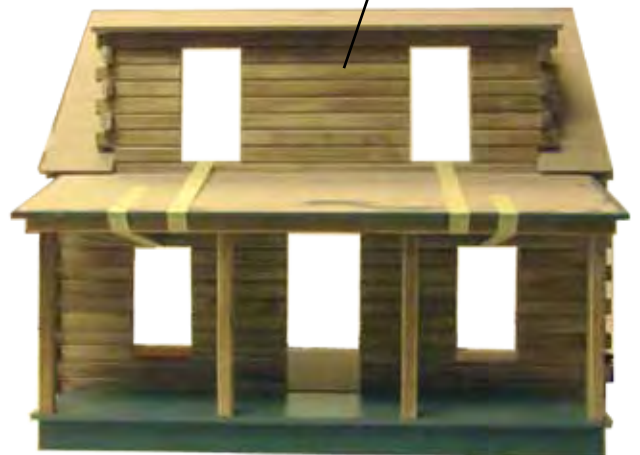
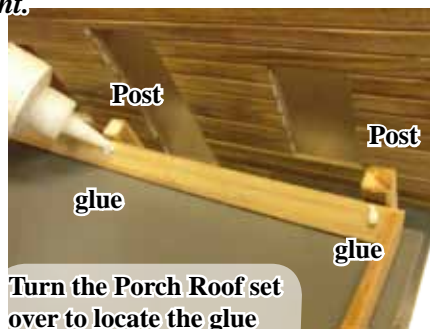
A copy of each cutting diagram is on the last page



27. Glue and tape the Porch Roof Set to the house and Posts. Put a double twist in the tape used to hold the Posts to the Roof (make it look like a 'bow tie') to pull the Posts tight to the Front Facia.

Check that the Posts are straight.

Let the glue dry.



Bow Tie



Window Assembly:

www.realgoodtoys.help has more window assembly photos

□ 28A. Paint (first-coat) the Window Frames. Do not get paint on the ends, and wipe off any paint that has crept around the corner onto the ends. Sand the Window Frames and paint (second-coat) only the edge with the groove for the Window Pane. The rest of the Frame will be painted after assembly.

Glue and rubber band together all the Window Frames with the Window Panes in place. The painted mullions are on one face of each pane and should always be on the outside (or on the inside--- your choice, but keep it the same in every window). A word about mullions: Painted mullions can be nicked in handling before assembly or at any time in the life of the dollhouse. In use, it is seldom easy to see that a mullion has been nicked, but if you do want to touch-up the mullions, mask the edges of the damaged mullion with "magic" tape, rub the tape down on the edge next to the mullion, and paint between the tape with "white-out"). Let the paint dry before removing the tape.

B. Cut and assemble eight sets of Shutters (4 pairs) from 1/8 x 9/16 Stripwood.

C. The Door: Pull the pin from the bottom of the Door and tip out the door panel for painting (tape the pins to the bottom of the threshold so they won't be lost) Re-assemble in reverse order when painting is done.

Check the fit of the Door in the opening. Trim or file the opening if necessary for a good fit.

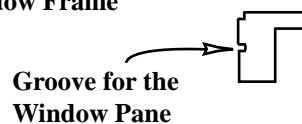
D. Glue together the Window Interior Trim and the Door Interior Trim. Window and Door Interior Trim will be attached during interior finishing.

Door Interior Trim

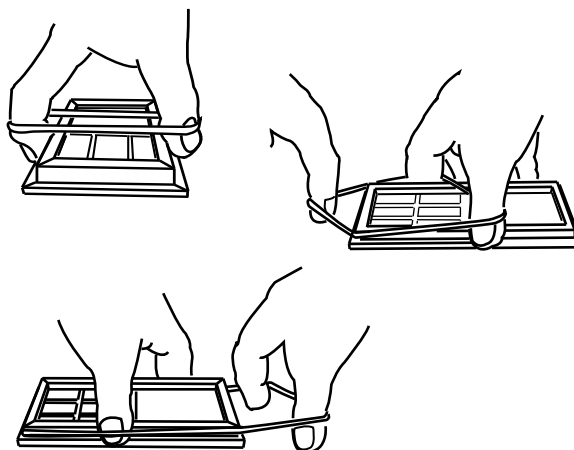
Window Interior Trim

Paint (second-coat) the Window Frames, but *stay well-away from the Window Panes*

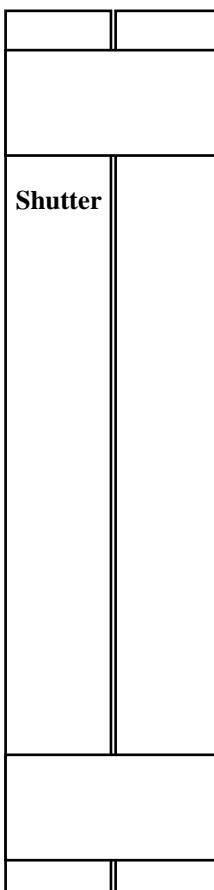
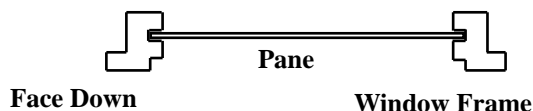
**Illustration #47
Window Frame**



These hands are holding the frame parts down against the table (not squeezing them together)



This is the Inside



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)
- Divider and Attic Partition
- Finish wiring
- Wallpaper and paint
- Windows and Doors
- Flooring
- Baseboard and crown moldings
- Stairs

29. Glue in the Window frames and door; glue on the Shutters. (see the page 1 photo). Install the Window Panes, Interior Window Frames, and Door Interior Trim.



Glue the Interior Window Trim to the wall with dots of glue in the corners



30A. Glue a Stair Tread into the stair hole, lined up on top and closer to the front of the house. Let the glue dry.

B. Glue a Stair Stringer to the Side Wall, the bottom of the Tread, and the front edge of the stair hole.

C. Glue another Stringer in the same position, spaced about 2" from the first.

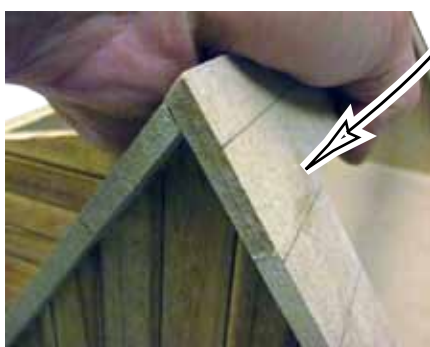
D. Glue the rest of the Treads to the Stringers and to the Wall.

31. The Divider and Attic Partition are an important support for the Floors/Roofs, but they can go anywhere you like. Consider your interior plan and locate the Dividers accordingly.

Tip glued Dividers and put them in until they are almost against the front wall, set the base of the Divider down, lift the next higher floor, straighten the Divider, and push it the last bit into position (same for the Attic Partition).

32. Attach the Rear Roof .

Rear Roof set



The Rear Roof overlaps the Front Roof



33. Attach the Chimney



Trim

34A. Measure and cut two pairs (2-left, 2-right) of Eave Trim 11” from two 23¹/₂” S-Logs. A log end will have to be shaped for the Eave Trim to fit. Glue the Trim to the Roofs. Let the glue dry.



Eave Trim

Dormer Eave Trim

A copy of each cutting diagram is on the last page

B Measure and cut a pair (one left, one right) Dormer Eave Trim from a 12” ‘S-Log’ (9/16” wide). Glue them to the Dormer Roof lined up in front and at the top. Glue the S-Log 20¹/₁₆ to the Dormer Roof front.

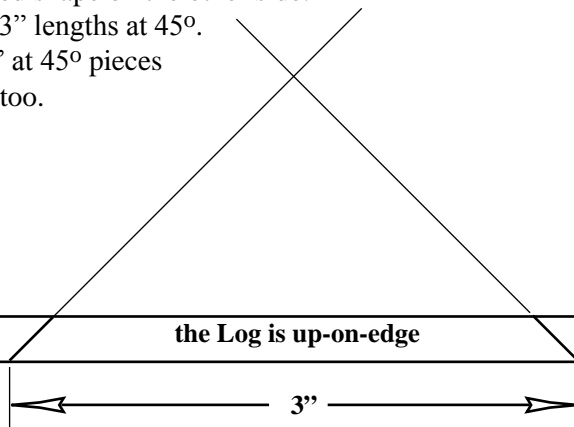


Rounded



Re-staining the Knee Braces

C. Knee Braces: File and sand a 12” S-Log to repeat the rounded shape on the other side. Cut the log into 3” lengths at 45°. Cut two more 3” at 45° pieces and round them too.



Glue the Knee Braces to the Posts and inside of the Facia. The Knee Braces will come down the Posts just under 1³/₈” below the Facia.



There is a slideshow of Shingling this house at www.realgoodtoys.help

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. Fabric glue or Hot-Melt glue will also work (see “Shingles” on www.realgoodtoys.help).

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

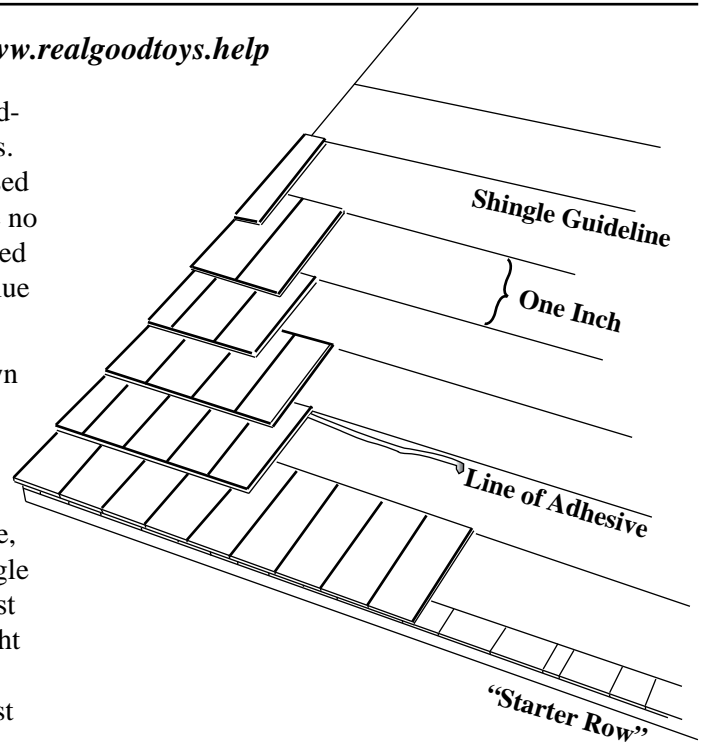
B. Apply a thin line of adhesive just below the lowest guideline, long enough for several shingles. Press the top edge of a Shingle into the line of glue, smearing the excess upward. Hold the first Shingle steady and press another Shingle into the adhesive, tight to the first. Hold the next Shingle and press-in-and-smear-up another... etc. Repeat 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 Chimney to keep the bottom edge of every row straight.

Cut the top row of Shingles so that the next lower row has 1” showing.

C. Finish the top peak with a “Boston Lap”: pairs of Shingles laid horizontally. Start at the ends of the peak, and, with each pair overlapping the previous pair, work to the middle. Cap the middle with one pair covering the runs from each direction.



Boston Lap at the Peak



You're done with the construction part of your project.

Enjoy the Rest!

Porch Facia

45/8 at the edge

Dormer Eave Trim

Eave Trim

Dormer Side

This is how they worked out for me... yours will probably be different lengths.

9/16" Logs

Knee Brace

the Log is up-on-edge

3"

