

Carson's Cottage

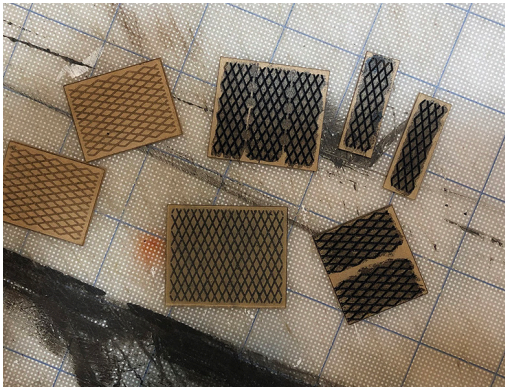
1/4" Scale Dollhouse kit



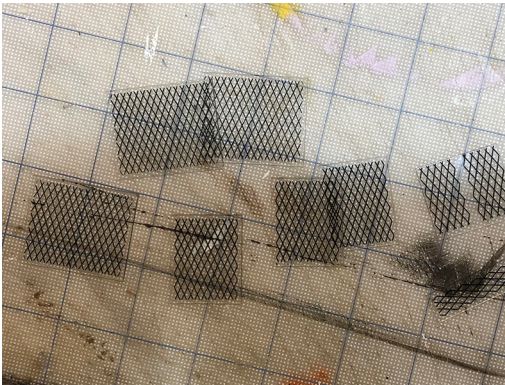
Before you begin anything, I highly recommend that you dry fit the main pieces and read the instructions through so that you have an idea of how everything fits together. This will make it much easier in the long run, trust me. The house is designed to be constructed in layers to make it easier to install wallpaper and finishing touches like base boards.

If you have ANY questions, please email me at
samanthacreations@sbcglobal.net.

If possible include photos to make it easier to understand what you are asking.



- Find the little baggie labeled "Glass". DO NOT REMOVE THE PAPER BACKING ON THE PLEXIGLAS. Paint the etched side black or dark gray taking time to make sure you get the paint in the etched grooves to create the leading for the windows. The paper backing will act as a stencil. Once the paint has dried thoroughly you can then carefully remove the paper backing.



- Paint all your window frames. You only need to paint one side and the edges. These will sandwich together with the plexi pieces. There is a front and back for each window. (The front door has a middle piece that is thicker on the bottom. The glass will fit in the opening of this piece, then sandwiched between the fronts and backs.)

- Assemble all your windows and set aside to dry.

*** When you glue together your window "sandwiches" be careful what glue you use. Some super glues will cause the plexi to cloud up. Should that happen, coating the glass part of the window with clear fingernail polish will help. It'll make the windows look a little more rustic but that's not necessarily a bad thing. I prefer using Ultimate Glue for glue plexi. It dries clear and retains some flexibility.*



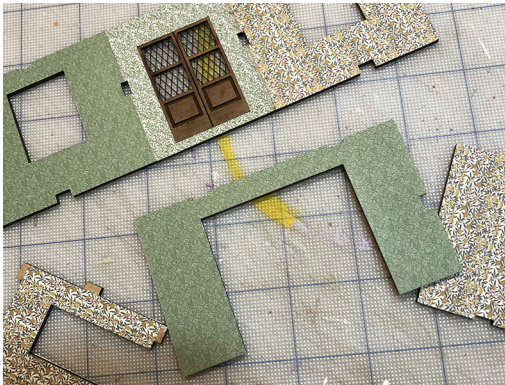


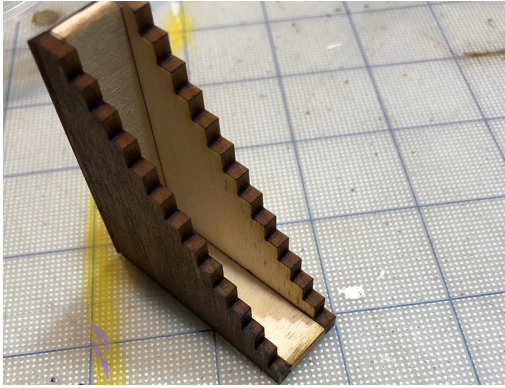
- Glue the first floor flooring to the first floor base, carefully aligning the two pieces. Weight or clamp the two pieces together to avoid any warping. Once glue has dried, stain and finish as desired. I use Minwax stains and spray a couple of coats of Deft Satin Top Coat then finish with 0000 steel wool. This gives a nice smooth finish to wood. Do the same for the second floor.

*** If you are planning on lighting your house, I tried to accommodate wiring it down through the base or up to the top. There are grooves in the first floor ceiling for the wire to run under the flooring and the wires can run behind the chimney breasts through the grooves provided. Run your wiring before gluing down the second level flooring*

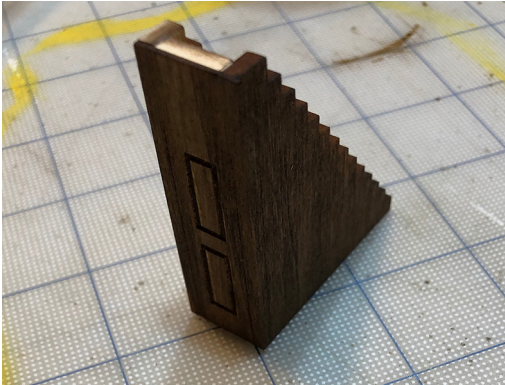


- Apply wallpaper as desired. I personally find it easier to apply the wallpaper before putting the walls together, but I have also been known to put the walls together before applying wallpaper. It usually depends on how critical it is for me to match seams on the wallpaper. It's entirely your preference.

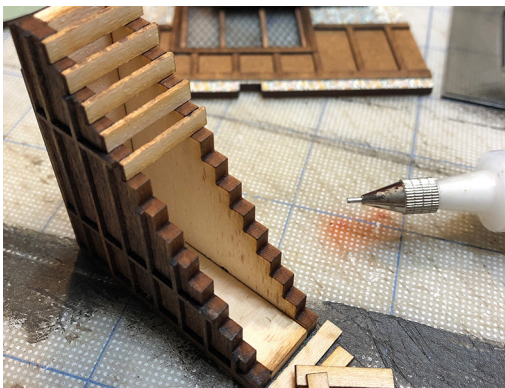




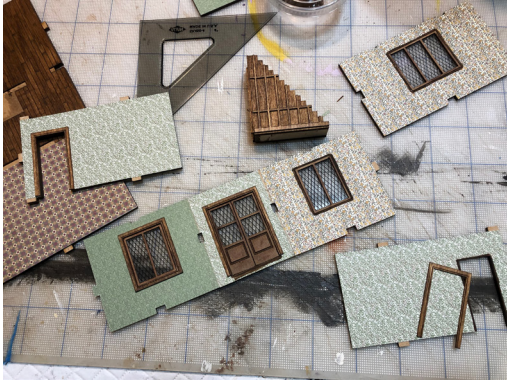
- Assemble the stair base as shown. Glue the door piece to the back so that it is flush on the side that goes against the hallway wall. It will hang over just a tiny bit on the other side. Let it.



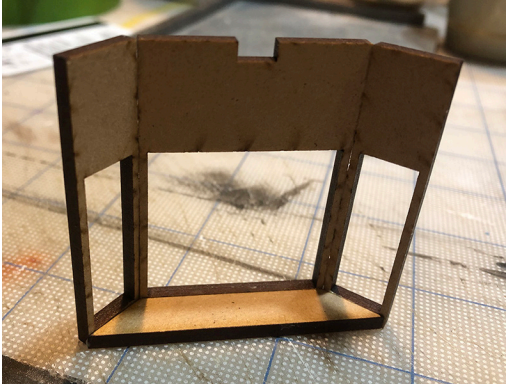
- Glue the stair trim to the assembly leaving a 1/32" gap on the bottom to allow for the flooring..



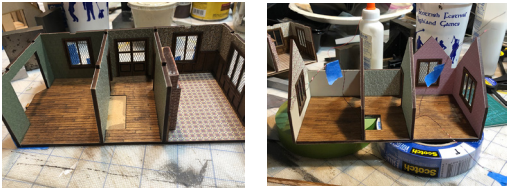
- Find the small bag labeled "Risers". Glue the risers as shown, flush with the outside edge of the main assembly. You may have a little hang over on the side that will go up against the wall. That's okay. You will sand this flush once the glue has dried.
- Once the risers are dried, glue the pieces labeled "Treads" on the top of the risers. This time make the treads flush with the side that will go against the wall. You want a little overhang on the outside because that's how stairs do. DO NOT glue a piece on the very top just yet. You will glue that piece once you have installed the stairs and second floor.



- Stain or paint the interior window and door trim pieces.
- Fit the windows into the walls. These will be a very snug fit and may require a little bit of sanding. They will fit flush to the front of the wall.
- Glue the trim pieces into place.



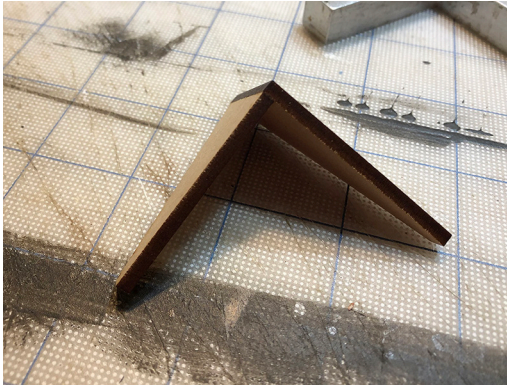
- Glue the top of the center bay window piece to the bay ceiling piece. Glue each side into place. Glue the thin double bead trim in the gaps created by the angle of the bay windows, flush to the top.



- Glue the walls of each level together. Attach the bay window to the bottom level.
- Finish running your wiring. There are grooves in the back of the fireplaces to run the wires between floors.
- Apply any base boards, door trim, doors and any other finishing touches you want at this time



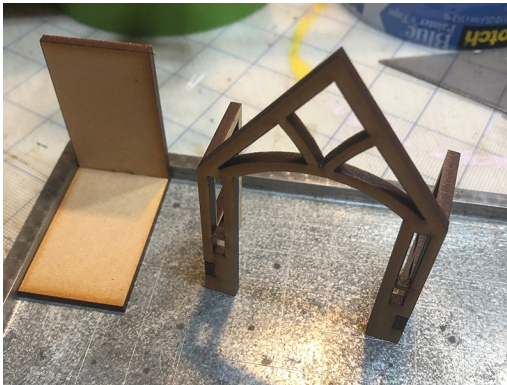
*** I have included an alternative fireplace for the kitchen. This fireplace is larger and will accommodate a stove. I covered mine in brick (not included). One of Debbie Young's Victorian stoves fits perfectly.*



- Glue the two dormer roof pieces together.



- Tape the front piece of the roof in place. Align the top edge with the peaks on the interior walls.
- Glue the dormer roof into place on the front piece of the roof. DO NOT glue it to the second floor assembly, Glue it only to the roof piece. This is so you can paint the inside ceiling as one piece. (If you don't like the squared off edges on the inside of the dormer roof, doing things this way will also allow you to sand the edges flush.



- Assemble the porch pieces as shown. The side pieces glue to the back side of the front piece, flush with the outside.



- Glue the small stone pieces on the bottom section of the porch assembly. The long piece of stone work is for the bay window.
- Glue the straight pieces flush with the upper edge of the stone all the way around.



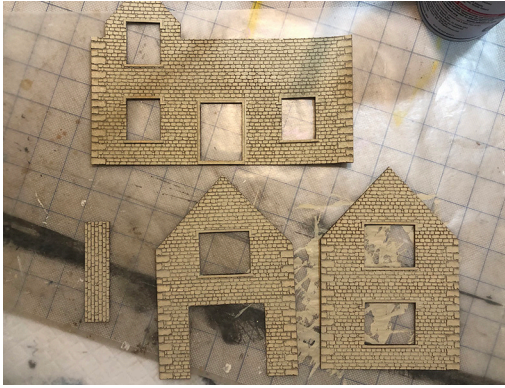
- Glue the roof on the porch so that it is flush with the back. When you glue the sides down it will create a small gap in the top. Don't worry about this. The shingles will cover this up.



- Glue the two levels together.



- Glue the window trim on the exterior pieces.



- Paint all the stonework a nice cement color. Get down in the grooves but be careful not to paint it too thick that the grooves get filled in. When the paint dries, seal it. Once the sealer dries, lightly dry brush a variety of earthy colors across the top to make it look like natural stone.

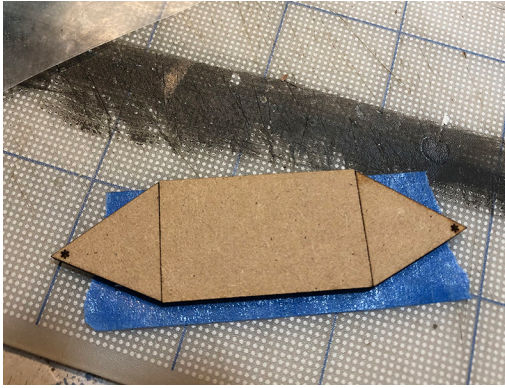
** These pieces will probably warp but this material will flatten out beautifully when you attach it to the house.



- Glue the side pieces onto the house. The piece for the bay window will slide in on either side of the bay window. Glue the remaining stone piece to the bottom half of the bay window. Glue a long strip of the flat trim to the top edge of the stone.
- Glue the front piece into place.
- Go back in and touch up the window trim and paint the corner stones (quoins) with the cement color.



- Glue the front piece of the roof in place. Align the top edge with the peaks on the interior walls. Glue the back piece so that the top edge is flush with the front piece. Paint the bottom edges.



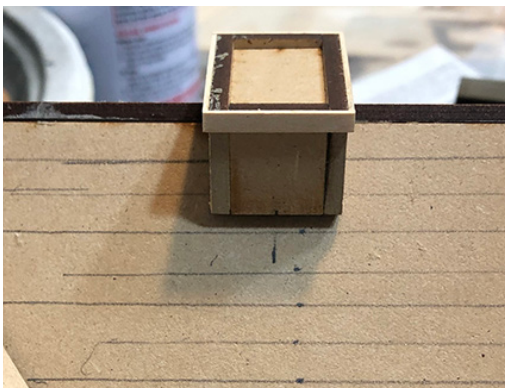
- Take the bay window roof pieces and line them up side by side with the asterisk on the triangular pieces on the outer edge. Run a piece of masking tape across the three pieces. Trim excess tape.



- Glue the three pieces to the top of the bay window. You want a little overhang. Paint the bottom edges.



- Glue the smaller v-shaped trim piece to the front edge of the dormer roof. Glue one of the larger v-shaped trim pieces to each end of the roof. Paint these the cement color.



- Assemble the chimney. Glue trim around top edge. Paint the cement color. Glue the chimney onto the roof in the center.



- Cut the crimped shingle strips into 2-3" long pieces.
- Starting 3/4" from the bottom edge of the roof, draw a line at 1/2" intervals. Glue the crimped strips along these marks beginning from the bottom, working your way up. Over lap each piece a couple of ripples. Stagger your overlaps. Use a strip folded in half for the ridge.
- Apply shingles to the porch assembly the same way.
- When glue has dried, dry brush grays and browns over the roofing to create an aged effect.



- Glue the porch assembly to the front, centering it on the front door.
- Glue house to base and landscape.