



Not Your Average Newsletter

Integrity, information and great service

October 25, 2005

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Happy Halloween!

Please drive carefully, especially when all of the little ghosts and goblins are on the prowl.

Something Useful:

Did you know that you can help reduce the problem of spilling drinks in take out style paper cups with plastic lids by opening the tab then tucking it back through the lid?

Getting Our Hour Back:

Now that we are switching back to standard time, most of us won't have to get up in the dark – at least for a little while longer. Unfortunately it also means that the nights start earlier.

Do you want to have more family interaction in the long evenings ahead? Why not dedicate some time each night to a gift project? Some of the more complex projects will need to be started now to be ready for Christmas gift giving.

Store Hours:

Tues Wed 10-7
Thurs Fri 10-9
Sat 10-5
Sun Mon: closed

Holiday Hours (Nov 1):

Tues Wed 10-7
Thurs Fri 10-9
Sat: 10-5
Sun 12-5
Mon closed

If a favourite friend or relative, young or old has always wanted a wooden dollhouse but doesn't have the time, money or initiative to get started, why not purchase a kit and lay the groundwork for them?

We have a good selection of fine quality dollhouse kits from Artesania Latina in Spain, Hobbycraft and Day to Day. The kits come in a range of prices from \$33.99 to \$329.99 and we have a variety of accessories for \$4.99 and up.

It's also a gift you can add to for future birthdays and holidays. An idea that helps you to find useful gifts of enhancements and accessories for people who are normally hard to buy for.

The good news is that you don't have to go it alone, we're here to help. **The best news is that from now until November 30th, 2005 you can save 15% off any of the dollhouse kits currently in the store.**

Hurricane Wilma? What do you mean we're almost out of letters for this year? Do the hurricanes know that?

Speaking of hurricanes, my sister and her husband blew into town recently in a flurry of notes and ideas. They tore through the front of the store and the destruction was massive. Cleanup and damage control took days.

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They did help with some of the cleanup before they had to fly back out west again. Let's just say that draining and moving a 85 gallon fish aquarium was the least of our worries.

We have revamped the whole store so why don't you come have a look?

Stay tuned for the November 8th newsletter for the results of the Halloween costume party at the leash free park



Tips and Tricks

We thank, in advance, anyone willing to share their knowledge with others as Mr. White has done.

Need sanding sticks for small areas?

Use toothpicks, sandwich sticks, craft sticks, or tongue depressors.

Spread white glue on one side of the stick.

Attach sheet of appropriate grit sandpaper.

Let dry then trim off excess sandpaper with sharp hobby knife.

Mark the grit number on the other side of stick and store in containers for re-use.

Make sanding sticks to fit in very small areas or strange shapes.

Submitted by Charles (Bud) White of Burlington, Ont.

Makes you think doesn't it? Would doweling, bamboo skewers or disposable chopsticks work for rounded areas?

Would you like to have this newsletter emailed to you? Send an email with subscribe as the subject to carefree.hobbies@cogeco.ca or, better yet, stop by the store and give us your email address in person.



How To Build a Dollhouse Kit

From: <http://miniatures.about.com/od/dollhousekits/ht/bldkit.htm>

All dollhouse kits contain a full set of instructions which you should read fully before commencing the project.

The following are a few tips to help you with the process.

1. Go through the kit and label parts by writing on masking tape. Duplicate parts (i.e. stair treads or window frames) can be bagged together and labelled as one. This will save you a lot of time and frustration later
2. If the kit is made of 1/8" luan plywood, use tacky glue to assemble. Wood glue can become brittle and crack if the joint is not tight.
3. NEVER use hot glue to build or attach anything to wood. It does not bond with wood and your house will eventually fall apart.
4. You can use real acrylic house paint but thin it with a little bit of water to make it go on smoother. Also, some acrylic paints come in a semi-gloss. If you use those, you don't need to apply a varnish as a sealer.
5. Some steps can be confusing at first so dry fit the pieces together with masking tape before actually gluing them.

What You Need:

- Masking tape
- Wood glue
- Hammer & Nails
- Tacky glue
- Primer or Mixture of 50/50 de-natured alcohol/shellac
- Utility knife
- Razor saw for cutting trim
- Acrylic paint, brushes, tiny rollers
- Sandpaper and tack cloth
- Metal cork-backed ruler



Just a thought:

How long a minute is depends on what side of the bathroom door you're on.