

# Appliances and Barber Shop



Michael Kurtz

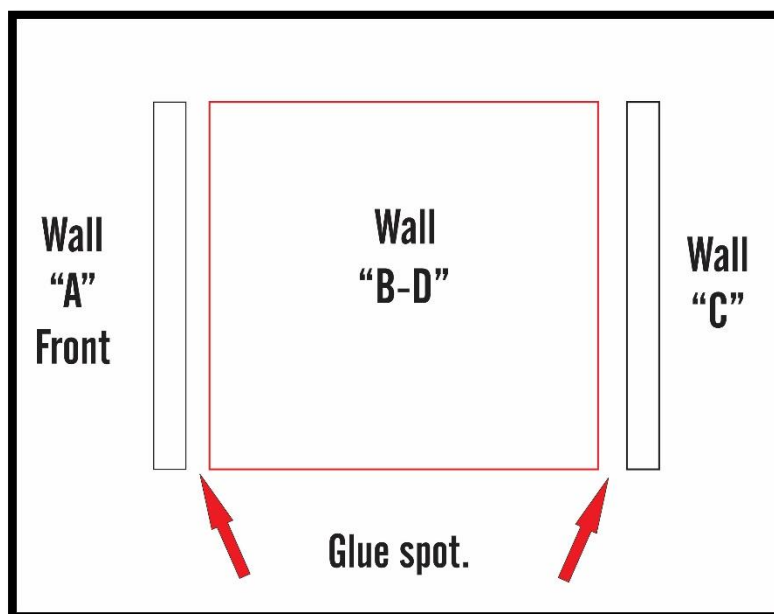
Thank you for purchasing the Appliances and Barber Shop structure kit. Your kit includes everything that you need to assemble the final product. We recommend using “Carpenter’s Glue”, which is available through different brands, including *Elmer’s*. We also recommend using a steel square for perfectly aligning your walls. Perpendicularity is important; a drafting triangle will also suffice. A sharp *X-Acto* knife and a sanding tool are also necessary, with either fine sandpaper or a nail file being suitable.

### Step #1 –Glue the Four Walls Together.

Apply Carpenter’s Glue to the edges of the side walls (B & D). Do *not* use an excessive amount of glue, this minimizes unwanted seeping through the sides. Apply a thin bead of glue and spread it out as a thin coat. You may also apply a bead of glue to the inside surfaces of the front and side walls (A & C).

Carpenter’s Glue will afford you the time to perfectly align your walls, as there is some “setup” time for drying. I recommend that you glue one attachment at a time, in one sitting apiece. Again, this will give you the flexibility to adjust the perpendicularity of the structure. Once you have your walls all secured, I recommend letting the glue dry additionally for 24 hours. While the glue is setting, you can use the roof panel as means to check and ensure that the building corners are perpendicular and the building is sound. If you have access to them, then you may want to use clamps positioned with the clamping faces on the front and rear of the building, forming a tight glued seal.

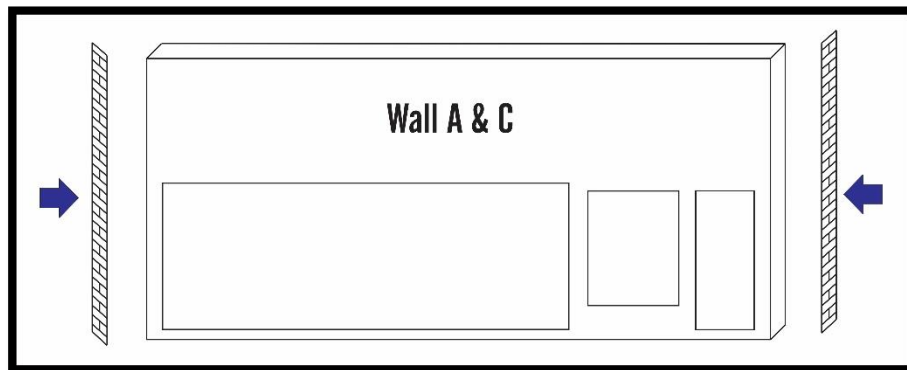
With structures made of lighter, or less sturdy, material, it is common practice to run a square brace tucked into each quarter using 1/4” or 3/8” square wood. With our River Leaf Models this is not necessary, but the option is available if desired.



**FIGURE 1 – GLUING YOUR STRUCTURE WALLS****Step #2 –Glue the strip of brick facing to the side of the front wall.**

The walls of your kit are cut from MDF, with the brick pattern already etched to the front surface. With this, the sides of the wall sections of the front and rear of the building (A & C) require adding the brick pattern. As show in the Figure 2, apply the supplied brick pattern strip to the sides of the front wall using Carpenter's glue.

Be careful not to use excessive amounts of glue when applying the strips, as glue will seep from the sides. Apply a thin bead and spread down the center of each side of the front wall; spread evenly over said areas. The brick pattern strips will adhere nicely to the glued areas.

**FIGURE 2 – APPLYING BRICK PATTERN STRIP**

The brick pattern strips are longer than the sides of the wall. Trim off the excess strip for each side. You will also need to apply the brick pattern strip to the edges of the rear wall (Face A & C). Sufficient brick pattern strip material is supplied to cover all exposed surfaces.

### **Step #3 - Painting the Base Structure.**

There are a number of methods for painting the structure. Experienced modelers will find that the structure is well suited to any number of painting and detailing techniques. Here is one technique which will deliver excellent results.

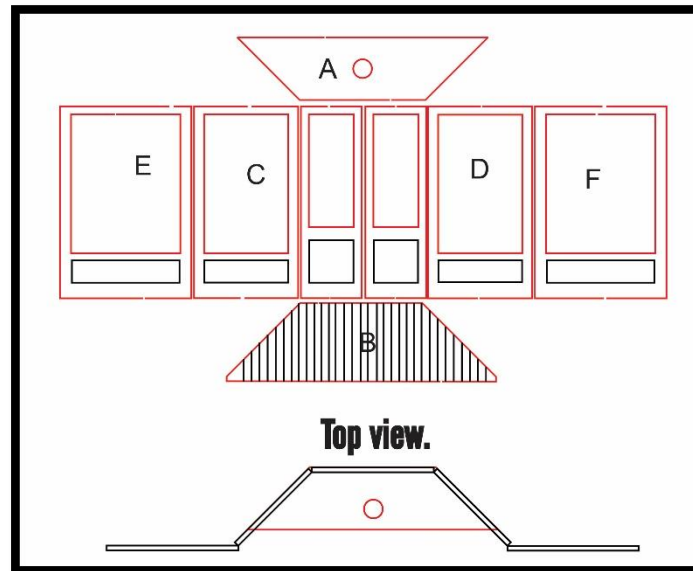
Once the glue has completely dried, you will then find that you have a very sturdy base with which to work. To achieve the effect of mortar lines between brick layers, paint the entire structure with an undercoat of the color you desire for your mortar lines. White is a logical choice as it gives you distinctive mortar lines with a consistent, base undercoat for the brick surface of the building. Paint the entire structure like this, concentrating on the engraved mortar lines. Then let the building thoroughly dry.

Letting the building completely dry is an important step, as your second step is to paint the brick surface with an overcoat—of course avoiding streaking. After the building's undercoat is completely dry, then paint with your desired color on the brick surface. Avoid getting paint in the mortar lines. Use for overcoat an acrylic paint of desired color using a "dry brush" technique. Dry brushing uses minimal amounts of paint on your brush, subsequently painting the surface lightly—preferably with a broader brush. This technique will let the paint cover the brick surface without seeping into your mortar lines.

In order to achieve a "dry brush", after dipping your brush into paint, whip a few strokes on your backdrop paper or other surface. This will remove excess paint from the brush. Dry brushing may require you to apply a few coats. Don't try to achieve full coverage in one coat. Dry brushing is a process in which you build your color and coat through a series of layers. By following these instructions, your finished product will have a distinct mortar line and a pleasing brick surface color. Once your structure is painted and completely dry, you can move on to adding the details!

#### Step #4 – Assembling the Front Entry Foyer.

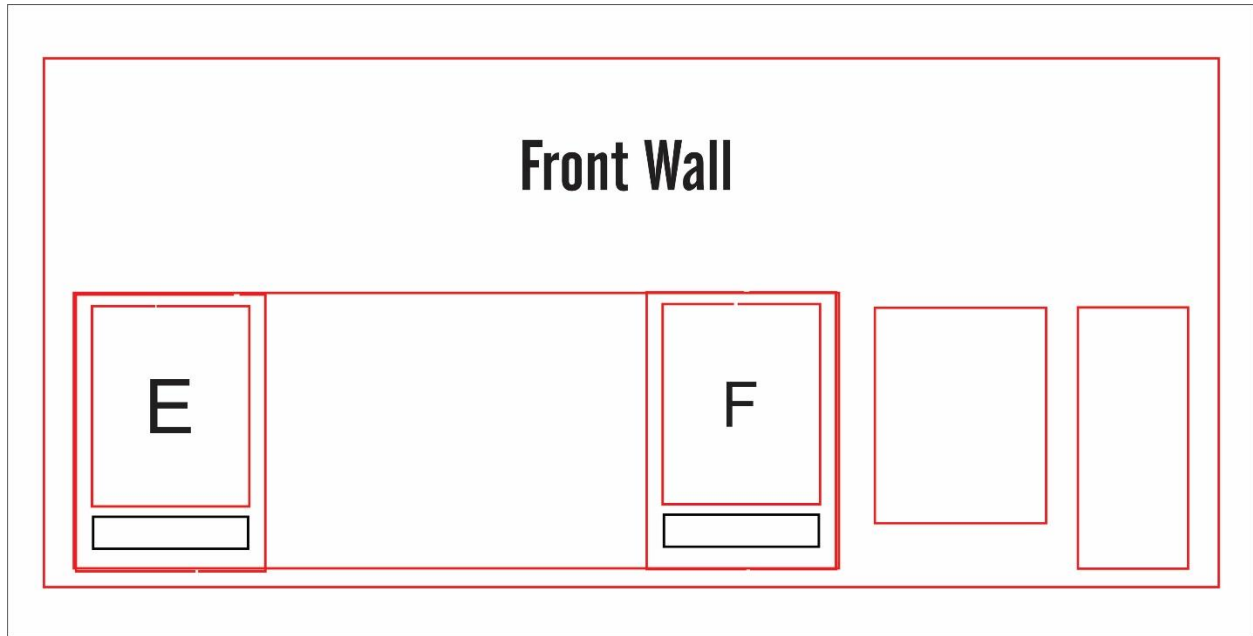
Your structure is now stable, squared up and ready for the details. Prior to any installation, this is the time to decide on your color scheme and paint your detail parts, including window and door frames. Painting these prior to installation will yield the best results.



**FIGURE 3 – ASSEMBLING THE FRONT ENTRY FOYER**

The front entrance is a recessed entry and fits as the front wall. The best way to assemble these pieces is to lay the door flat on your work surface and glue parts “A” and “B” on the top and bottom of entrance’s door edges. You want to keep these pieces perpendicular to the door. You can check this alignment using a drafting triangle or another 90 degree tool. Once dry, glue sides “C” and “D” to parts “A” and “B” and the respective door. Think of this as building a bathtub with four sides and a base. You may notice a slight gap between side pieces “C” and “D” and the main door. Touching this gap up with paint will seal it closed.

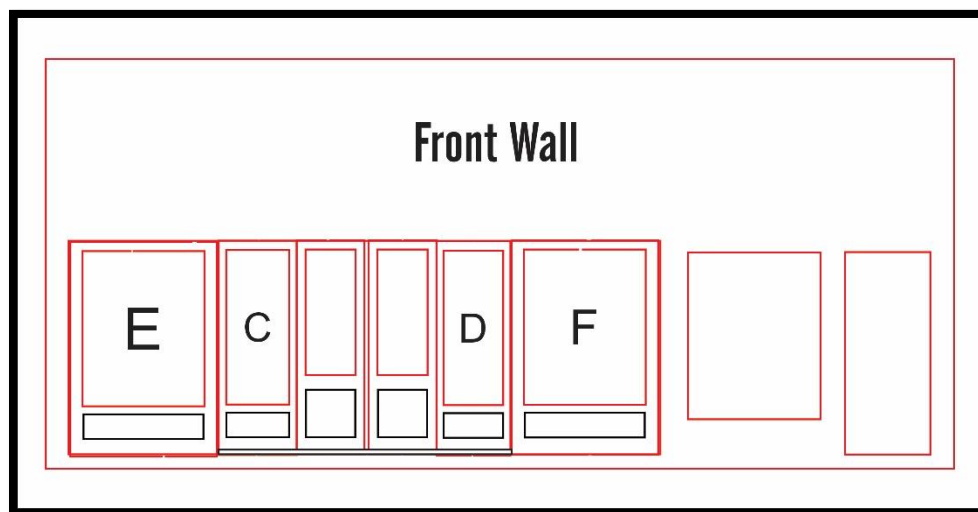
Install the frame windows “E” and “F” to each side of the main front wall.



**FIGURE 4 – ASSEMBLING THE FRONT ENTRANCE PANELS**

**Step #5 – Installing the Front Entry Foyer**

If you have not yet glued the front panels, I recommend you paint the front panels before gluing them to the entry foyer. Glue the front panels to the front foyer by applying glue on the edges only. Be sure the floor section (Part "B") lays over the front wall "step".

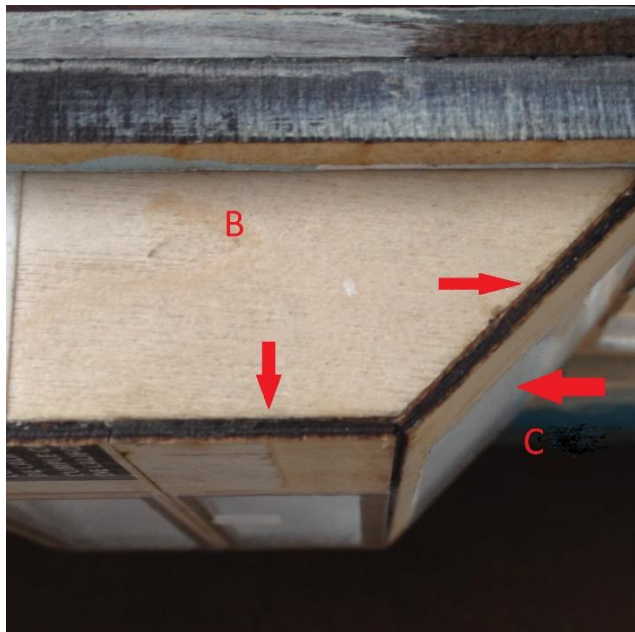


**FIGURE #4 – ASSEMBLING THE FRONT PANEL**

When gluing the front entry foyer to the front panel, apply glue to the sides of “C” and “D” as well as “A” and “B”. Position the entry foyer so that floor “B” aligns with the bottom of the front wall.

Apply the window glass as appropriate. Your entire front panel is now complete. You may opt for customization, such as adding an illumination to the entry foyer using either a bulb or LED source.

Attach the completed front entrance assembly to the front wall from the inside and align accordingly.



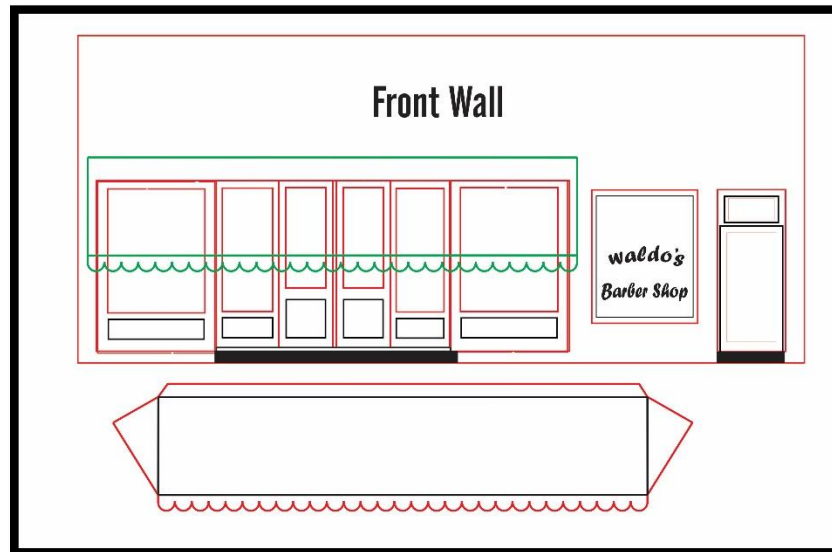
**Step #6 – Applying Windows, Doors and Details**

After painting, place windows and door as shown. If you find the fit to be too tight, then a light sanding on either side will correct this. Apply the window glass and insert into wall.

The front views shown in Figure #5 illustrate window, door and detail placement.

Bend the awning along the black lines to make the shape, then glue it to the wall using a small amount of glue.

Attach the step pieces in both entrances. I recommend painting them first.



**FIGURE #5 – WINDOW, DOOR & DETAIL PLACEMENT**

**Step #7 – Roof and Middle Wall**

Roof and middle wall installation are self-explanatory. I recommend painting the roof black and applying masking tape to overlap the edge for real appearance.

**Congratulations! Your building is complete!**

With your building now finished, you may opt to further enhance the structure using weathering techniques such as chalk or misting. Keep in mind that weather runs from top to bottom and will be concentrated in areas where water may gather and run off, such as around windows. Likewise, you may have weather “splash up” along the base. We will be posting tips on aging and weathering on our website in the near future.

If you have questions on construction or suggestions, please contact us by email at [riverleafmodels@gmail.com](mailto:riverleafmodels@gmail.com)

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