

# Coal Company Office



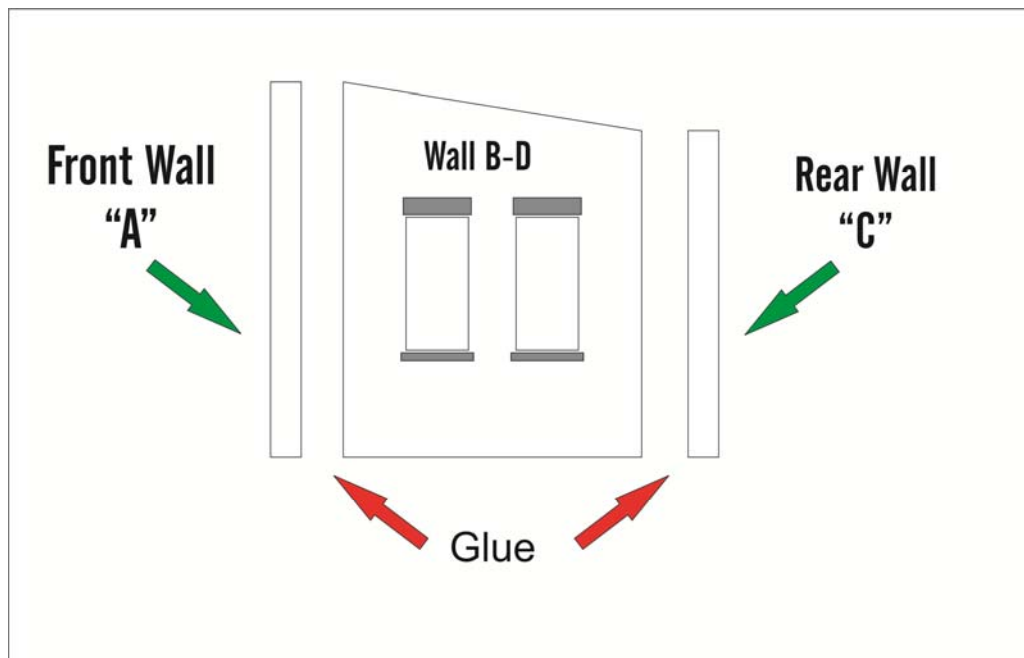
RIVER LEAF MODELS, LLC

Thank you for purchasing the Coal Company Office structure kit. Your kit includes everything you need to produce the final assembly. We recommend using “Carpenter’s Glue” available in a number of different brands, including Elmer’s. We also recommend using a steel square for aligning your walls for perpendicularity, although a drafting triangle will also suffice. A sharp X-Acto knife and a sanding tool – either fine sandpaper or a nail file will be suitable.

**WARNING** – Your kit requires the use of sharp tools. We do not recommend for children under the age of 14. Your kit is laser cut wood and some edges may be sharp. We recommend you use light sand paper to smooth the edges.

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

Apply Carpenters Glue to the edge of either side wall - (B & D). You do not need an excessive amount of glue. If you use too much glue, the glue will seep out the sides. Apply a thin bead of glue and spread it to a thin coat. You may also opt to apply a bead of glue to the inside surface of the front or back walls (A & C).



**FIGURE #1 – GLUING YOUR STRUCTURE WALLS**

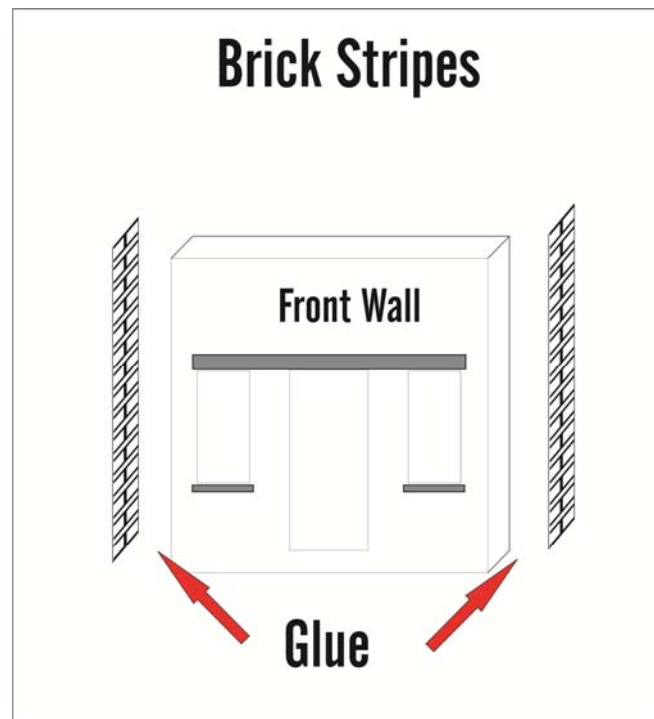
Carpenters Glue will afford you the time to perfectly align your walls, as there is some “setup” time. I recommend you do one corner at a time. Glue one side wall (B or D) to the inside of the front wall. Align to 90 degrees and allow glue to set. After your glue has dried and the corner is sturdy, glue the opposite side wall to the inside of the front wall. Once these joints are firm; glue the back wall to the ends of the two side walls. While the glue is setting, you can use the roof panel as a checking tool to ensure the building

corners are perpendicular. You may want to use clamps positioned with the clamping faces on the front and rear of the building to form a tight glued seal.

### **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 etched to the front surface. As a result the side of the wall section 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 glue.

Be careful to not use excessive amount of glue when applying the strip. Glue will seep from the side when you apply pressure. Apply a thin bead down the center of the side surface of the front wall and spread it evenly over the area. Apply the brick pattern strip on the glued area.



**FIGURE #2 – APPLYING BRICK PATTERN STRIP**

The brick pattern strip is longer than the edge of the wall. Trim off the excess and repeat for the inner sides of the entrance as indicated in Figure 2. You will also need to apply the brick pattern strip to the side 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 and experienced modelers will find the structure is well suited to any number of painting and detailing techniques. Here is a technique I believe will deliver excellent results.

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

Having the building completely dry is an important step, as your second step is to paint the brick surface and you want to avoid streaking. After the building is completely dry, paint your desired color on the brick surface. You want to avoid getting paint in the mortar lines. Use acrylic paint in your desired color using a “dry brush” technique. Dry brushing calls for using a minimal amount of paint on your brush and painting the surface lightly – preferably with a broader brush. This technique will have 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 the 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 through a series of layers. By following these instructions, your finished product will have a distinctive 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 –Applying the roof, windows and doors**

The windows and doors are snap fit into openings in the walls. These may require a small amount of filing to ensure an even fit. With one quarter inch thick walls, you have the option to position windows flush to the outer edge, or slightly recessed. A drop of CA or “Super Glue” in the corners will be sufficient to hold the windows firmly in place.

Lintels and cornices are included and are applied as strips glued to the exterior of the building above and below windows and doors.

The framework for the weigh scale overhang consists of vertical supports as shown in Figure #3. The one piece roof serves as a guide for placement.

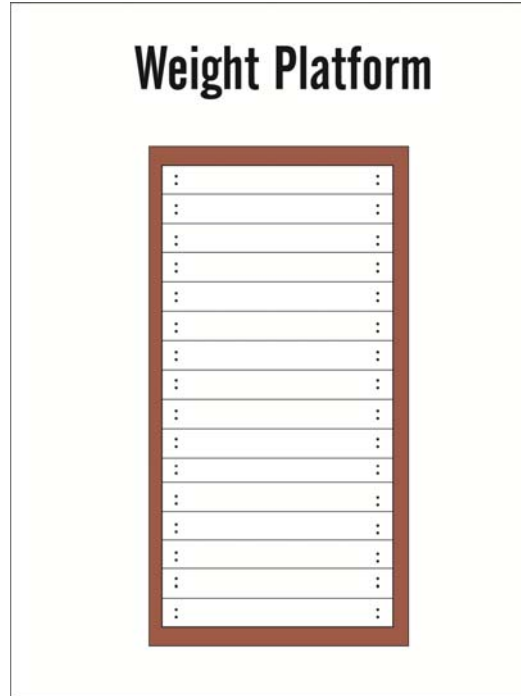


**FIGURE #3 – Structure Details and Roof**

### **Step #5 – Assemble the weighing platform**

The weighing platform is positioned beneath the overhang where vehicles were first weighed empty and then filled to determine the amount of coal being purchased. The weighing platform is a single piece with an outer frame and planking scribed into the surface. While no assembly is required, you can enhance the appearance of the weighing platform with weathering chinks.

In your scene, the weighing platform should be level mimicking the action of a truck being weighed on a flat scale.



**FIGURE #4 – Weighing Platform**

**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 weather runs from top to bottom and will be concentrated in areas where water may gather and run off. 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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