

BUILDING WOODEN STRUCTURES

Wood Materials:

Advantages:

Wood: Looks like wood
Paints with a brush
Takes paint and stains well
Takes most glues and adhesives well
Usually has a matt finish to begin with

Disadvantages:

Surface can be fuzzy
Different types of wood paints and stains differently
May not be precise or consistent in size
May warp **BIG TIME** when exposed to water based materials

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Disadvantages :

Plastic:

Does not look like wood. Takes work to do so.
Usually needs to be airbrushed - does not hand brush well
Usually needs to be primed before painting
Choices of adhesives not as large
Has a shiny finish that is usually not wanted

Advantages:

No grain to material so does not warp when wet
Takes plastic adhesives very well
Easy to cut
Usually very precise in size and shape

BUILDING WOODEN STRUCTURES-tools

Tools Must have:

- FLAT kitchen chop block or FLAT plywood. The thicker the better.
- Self Healing Cutting Mat: OLFA 12" x 8 1/2"
- Hobby knives: one each with #11 pointed and #17 flat.
- File Set: Broad Flat, Round, Triangular, Flat with edge file but not on flats.
- Tweezers: Pointed
- Model Railroad scale (ruler) to fit your scale.
- 12" Ruler
- Flat sanding pad and emery board.
- Small paint brush with sable fibers.
- Clothes pin clamp
- Square
- Finger drill and drill bit set.
- Toothpicks for glue

BUILDING WOODEN STRUCTURES-tools

Tools Nice to have:

- FLAT kitchen chop block. The thicker the better.
- Self Healing Cutting Mat: OLFA 12" x 8 1/2"
- Hobby knives: one each with #11 pointed and #17 flat with cushioned handle and non-roll nub.
- Tweezers: Pointed, Self closing, soft tips, flat tips
- Model Railroad scale (ruler) to fit your scale.
- Ruler. Prefer Triangular Architects scale
- Flat sanding pad, emery board, sanding stick, and various grades of sanding sheets.
- Various size and shaped paint and dusting brushes.
- Various size clamps and corner clamps.
- Various size squares. Metal and Plastic
- Various size weights metal or books with Saran Wrap in between. Do Not Use Wax Paper
- Finger drill and various size drill of high speed steel or carbide.
- HO, or whatever your scale is, calipers
- 0-1 Micrometer
- Compass handle and point for making nail holes in wood
- Toothpicks for glue and Micro brushes for fine painting and gluing.
- Sprue and Metal cutting nippers.
- Micro brushes

BUILDING WOODEN STRUCTURES-tools

Paint Used:

- Delta Ceramcoat (Acrylic Paint) found in Michaels Crafts Stores
- Floquil Railroad Colors (Petroleum based) found at Walther's and Hobby Stores
- Floquil Poly S (Acrylic Paint) Railroad colors found at Walther's and Hobby Stores
- Badger Model Flex Paint (Acrylic Paint) found at Walther's and Hobby Stores

Primers and Sealers Used:

- Floquil Primer – found at Walther's and Hobby Stores
- Testor's Dull Coat – Use on anything – found at Walther's and Hobby Stores
- Triangle Crafts Sophisticated Finishes – Primer and sealer (use on wood and non-metal finishes – Found at Michael's)

Mixing Paint:

- Use BB's
- Use battery operated paint mixer

Jar Opener:

- "V" type found at most hardware stores

BUILDING WOODEN STRUCTURES-tools

Adhesives:

- Aleene's Original Tacky Glue – found at Michael's. The glue I use 99% of the time.
- Hobby Poxy Epoxy Glue – 45 minutes working time
- Elmers Glass-AJ – only used to mix with water for applying signs to buildings
- Devcon Epoxy Glue – 5 minutes working time
- Hot Stuff Original Instant Glue 1 oz. I will use no other as this is the only instant glue that does not consistently clog up.
- Squadron Fast Drying White Putty

Adhesive remover:

- Golden West Super Solvent CA Instant Glue remover

- Poly S Plastic Prep #546007 Plastic prep for cleaning plastic (and I use it for metal too) before painting.

BUILDING WOODEN STRUCTURES-methods

Blackening Metal:

Rail Weathering Solution by Micro Engineering – turns metal black but can be rubbed off if metal is not prepped. I clean the metal with Poly S plastic prep first.

Aging Wood:

Mix Isopropyl Alcohol with either Griffin Black Shoe Dye & Edge Dressing or Super Black India Ink. I much prefer to use Griffin Shoe dye as most India inks today are acrylic and as such, water proof. Follow this up with a mixture of whatever base color you want the wood to be with a 50-50 mixture of water. (suit to color boldness desired). Better to add more washes that to start out dark. Follow as the last step (optional) use chalks to dull the surface and add color variations
Note: I usually use Delta Ceramcoat Burnt Umber for the color.

Aged Signs: Metal

Cut out of cardstock and glue to wall. Do not try and snuggle down to wall contour. Age with ink and color washes followed up with chalk dusting (if desired).

Aged Signs: Looks like painted on or posters

Cut out of cardstock. Sand the sign and glue to wall with 50-50 mixture of glue and water. When sanding the sign, sand it as this as possible without breaking through. Age with ink and color washes followed up with chalk dusting (if desired). BE VERY CAREFUL as the sign at this point will tear very easily. Follow the contour of the siding.

BUILDING WOODEN STRUCTURES-methods

Aged Signs: Painted on (Stenciled)

Place stencil on wall and burnish down to fit wall WITHOUT ANY GAPS. Dip brush in paint color desired. Dab brush on paper until almost no paint is left on brush. Dry brush lettering in stencil from a 90 degree angle. Do not let bristles of brush work under the stencil lettering edges. The lighter the lettering the more realistic it will look.

THE MAIN IDEA IS TO BE ORIGINAL.
MAKE YOUR KIT EITHER ONE OR TWO WAYS:
AS CLOSE TO THE PROTOTYPE AS POSSIBLE
OR BE CREATIVE AND MAKE YOUR KIT DIFFERENT FROM EVERYONE ELSE