

Congratulations on your purchase of Real Good Toys' Contemporary Ranch. Our design goal is to make a product that is a pleasure to build, makes you proud to own, and will last a lifetime.

Read the instructions all the way through and test the parts for identification, to see how they fit, and to plan ahead for the finishing materials you have chosen.

Parts List:

1	Base Floor	3/8MDF	28 7/8	19 3/4	2	Cutouts		
1	Loft Floor	3/8MDF	10 3/4	6		Notch		
1	Left Side, Back	3/8MDF	10 3/16	8 7/8		Window	Groove	
1	Left Side, Front	3/8MDF	10 17/32	8 15/16		Window	Groove	
1	Left Side, Top	3/8MDF	10 23/32	1 3/16		Bevel		
1	Left Front	3/8MDF	17	13		Windows	Grooves	Peaked
1	Middle Wall	3/8MDF	19 3/4	16 5/8		Doors		
1	Right Front	3/8MDF	16 5/8	9 3/4		Door	Peaked	
1	Right Side	3/8MDF	11 13/32	11		Door	Bevel	
1	Sunroom Front	3/8MDF	12 7/8	8 7/16		Window	Bevel	Peaked
1	Sunroom Side	3/8MDF	8 9/16	7 5/8		Window	Bevel	
1	Divider	3/8MDF	13 1/4	12 1/4		Cutout	Peaked	
1	Left Roof	3/8MDF	23	16		Skylights	Bevel	
1	Right Roof	3/8MDF	19 1/4	14		Skylights	Bevel	
1	Sunroom Roof	3/8MDF	10 3/4	8 1/2		Skylight	Bevel	
1	Peak Roof	3/8MDF	9	1 5/16		Bevel		
1	Loft End	3/8MDF	8 3/8	6 3/8		Door	Groove	Peaked
1	Loft Wall	3/8MDF	5 3/16	2		Bevel		
1	Loft Rail	3/8MDF	8 1/2	2				
2	Framing Square	1/8 MDF	9	2				
1	Porch Wall	3/4 MDF	11	8 3/8		Arches		
1	(980) Shingles		Type SWR					
1	Window Pane Sheet							

Window parts [Boxed]

1	Angled Casement, Tall	uses:	[note: "Pr" means one piece cut for the inside frame set and one cut for the outside frame set]					
	Pr Top Frame	9/32 L	33°Λ57°	2 9/16				
	Pr Right Frame	9/32 L	45°Λ57°	13 5/8				
	Pr Left Frame	9/32 L	45°Λ33°	12 9/16				
	2 2 5/16 Frame	9/32 L	45°Λ45°					
	2 1 3/4" Mullion	3/16 x 3/16						
5	Triple 6" Casement Window	use:						
	40 6 1/4 Frame	9/32 L	45°Λ45°					
	20 5 5/8" Mullion	3/16 x 3/16						
2	Triple 4" Casement Window	use:						
	8 6 1/4 Frame	9/32 L	45°Λ45°					
	8 4 1/4 Frame	9/32 L	45°Λ45°					
	8 3 5/8" Mullion	3/16 x 3/16						
1	Double 6" Casement Window	uses:						
	4 6 1/4 Frame	9/32 L	45°Λ45°					
	4 4 1/4 Frame	9/32 L	45°Λ45°					
	4 5 5/8" Mullion	3/16 x 3/16						
1	Double 2" Casement Window	uses:						
	4 2 5/16 Frame	9/32 L	45°Λ45°					
	4 4 1/4 Frame	9/32 L	45°Λ45°					
	2 1 3/4" Mullion	3/16 x 3/16						
2	"L" Hinges	8 1/2						
12	Screws	5/16 #2 panhead						
12	3/8 Stripwood	3/8 x 3/32	18					
1	Spiral Post	1/2Dowel	8			Slots		
10	Spiral Tread	1/8Ply	1 7/8			Wedge Shaped		
1	Bag of Stucco Grit							
1	Front Door	#6033						

Measurements are approximate and are for identification purposes only

Check all parts and packs against the parts list before beginning construction to identify the parts and to make sure you have everything. If you need replacement parts be sure to include the exact name and measurements taken directly from the parts list.

Supplies:

White glue	Sandpaper
Masking tape	Rubber bands
Utility knife	Paint and brushes
#1 Phillips Head Screwdriver in new condition	

Options available from RGT through miniature dealers

DYE-1	Brown Shingle Dye
DYE-2	Blue-Grey Shingle Dye
T-10	Turntable holds 300 lbs.
EL-66	Hole starter and electrification tool

Test fit each time you are ready to glue a piece in place...then you'll know you have it right.

If more tape or a helper is needed, it's good to know that before the parts have glue on them.

Assembly Notes:

A large, clutter-free, well-lighted work area is most helpful during assembly, and a flat work surface is essential.

Assemble this kit with glue and masking tape.

Don't be stingy with glue or tape.

Always wipe off excess glue immediately.

Make sure everything is tight, straight, and flat as the glue dries... That's the shape that will be permanent.

Follow the instructions in order. The order is arranged to give you reference lines for getting parts in exactly the right place where there are no edges to follow. The few moments this takes rewards you later when the walls are straight and everything fits!

Dye or stain the shingles several days before they are needed so they will be fully dried before gluing them to the house.

Electrification: If you are planning to electrify your house, use tape wire components. We suggest that you install the tape runs before permanently attaching the Roofs to the house. This will allow the house to be turned in several different positions, even up-side-down, to help make the tape installation and connections easier. Wire runs on the ceiling can be added after the Roofs are attached.

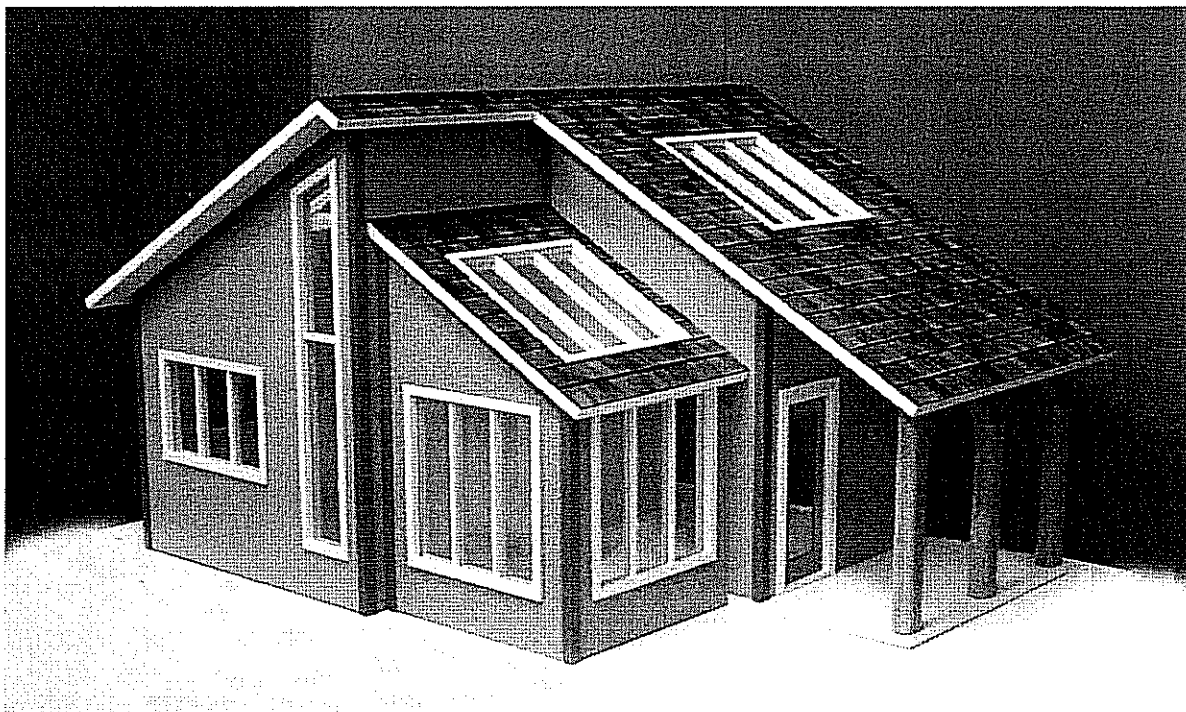
Windows: Each time the instructions say to let the glue dry, that's a good time to skip to the window section so you can keep ahead of the window assembly and painting.

Painting: Use high quality semi-gloss latex enamel, sanding between coats with 320 grit silicone carbide sandpaper. Avoid old gloppy paint and poor quality paint brushes. Do not paint surfaces to be glued.

Paint the window parts with several coats after the frame sets are glued together, but before installing them in the house. Sand lightly with 320 grit sandpaper between coats.

Paint the exposed surfaces of the Door (remove the Plexiglas) and Stripwood (after it's cut) before gluing them to the house.

There are many ways that you can finish the inside and outside of your dollhouse. Plan ahead and think your choices through so you will have the materials you need when the time comes to use them. For the show models we assemble at Real Good Toys, we paint the inside white, and we paint the outside tan. The Porch Wall and the outside of the Sunroom Walls get one coat of straight paint, then a coat of paint mixed with Stucco Grit. Keep the mix stirred, and apply with a foam brush in short swirls or slap the surface with the brush to make the stucco form a random pattern of textures.



Contemporary Ranch Body Assembly:

Preview: In this section, you will square the openings, and glue together the Floor and left walls.

☐ 1. Square the corners of the window, door, and skylight openings, and the cutout in the Base Floor.

☐ 2. Without glue, tape together the Left Side-Back and the Divider. This is a *temporary* position-aid for the Middle Wall.

Tape the Divider/Wall set to the Base Floor at the left-back corner.

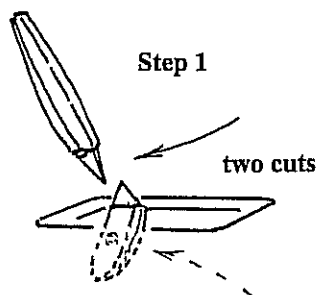
☐ 3. Glue and tape the Middle Wall to the Base Floor lined up with the back edge of the floor and with the edge of the floor's cutout in the front. 

☐ 4. Glue and tape the Left Front to the Base Floor and Middle Wall, with the Middle Wall tight in the groove of the Left Front.

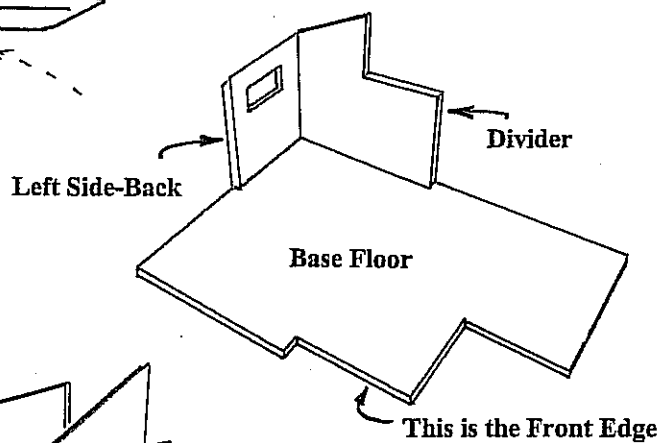
☐ 5. Make sure the Middle Wall is securely taped to the Base Floor at the back edge so you can move the Divider without the Middle Wall moving too.

Move the Divider to its real position, spaced from the Front with the Left Side-Top. Glue and tape the Divider to the Middle Wall and Base Floor.

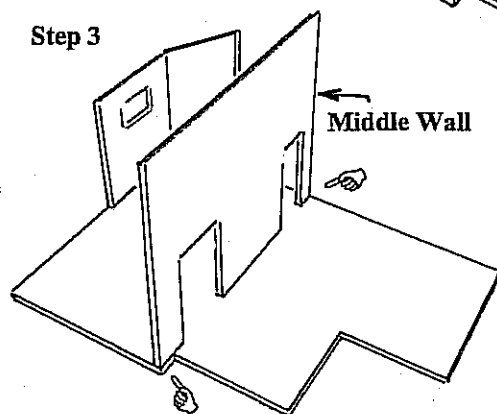
Test the Divider in many places to make sure it is spaced evenly left-and-right, and is straight up-and-down.



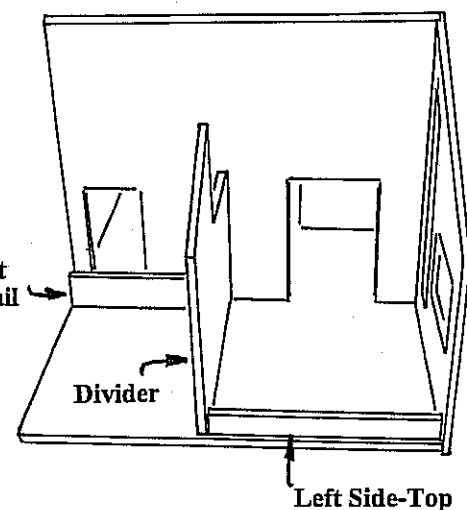
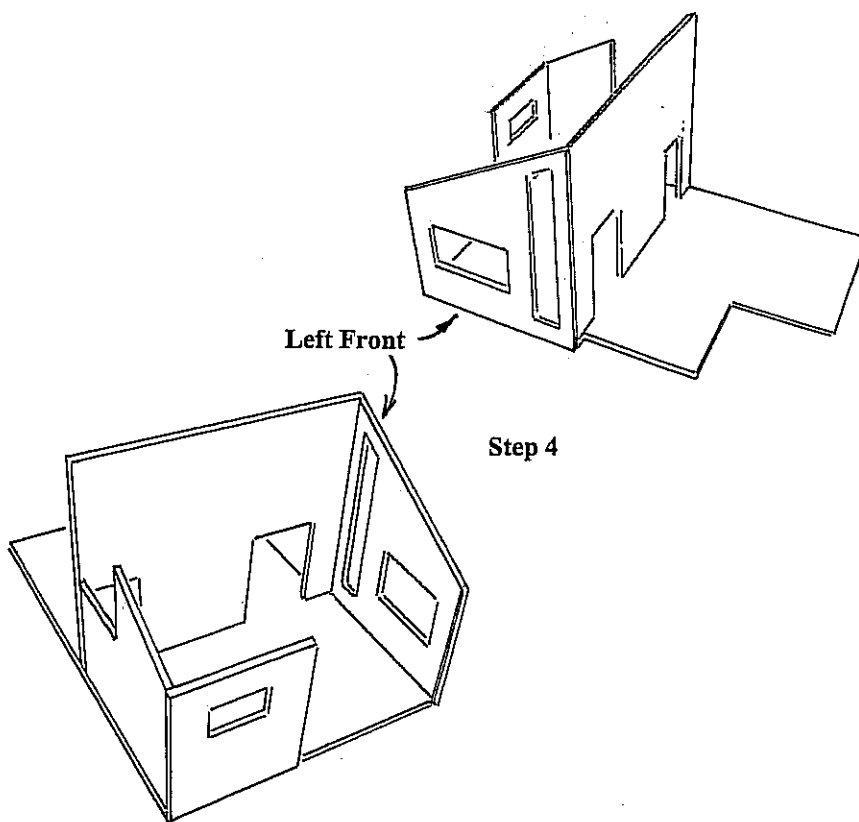
Step 2
TEMPORARY



Step 3



Step 4



Step 5

Left Side-Top and Loft Rail
are temporary spacers,
do not glue them here

☐ 6. Glue and tape the Left Side-Back to the Base Floor and Divider, spaced from the Front with the Left Side-Top. Check the spacing at the bottom and top.

Glue and Tape the Left Side-Top to the Left Side-Back and Left Front, lined up at the top.

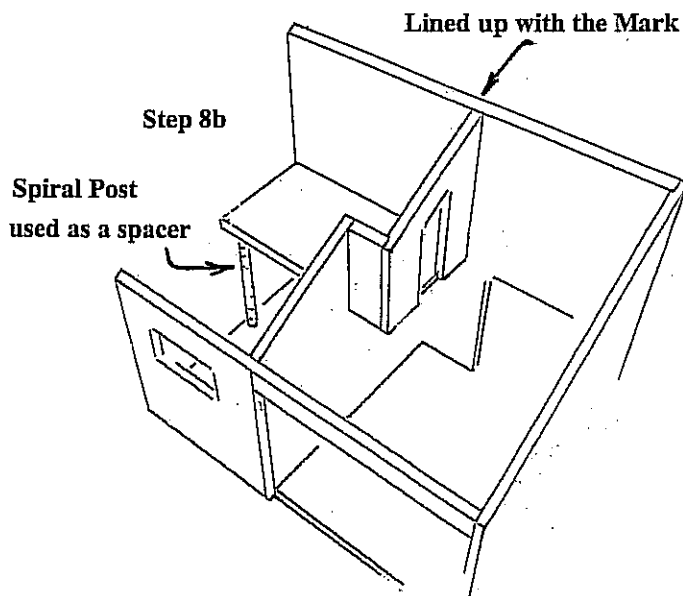
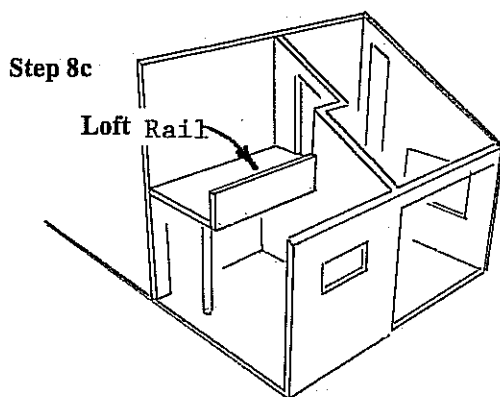
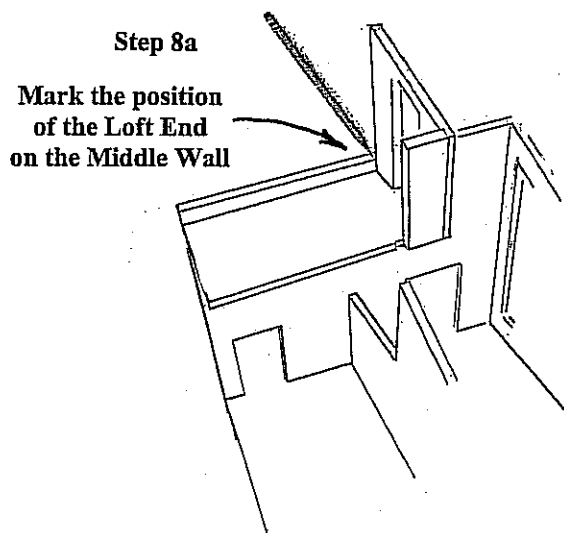
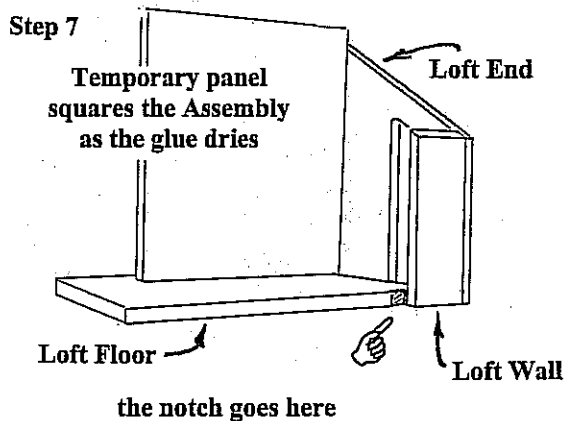
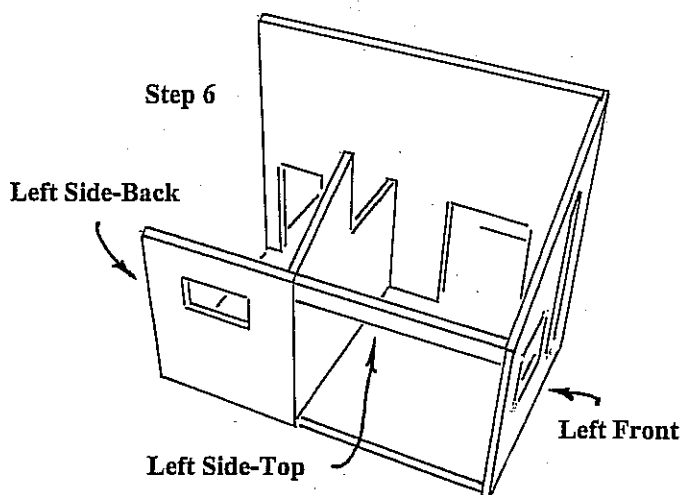
☐ 7. Glue and tape together the Loft Floor, Loft End, and Loft Wall.

Use an extra wall to hold the Loft End square to the Loft Floor as the glue dries.

☐ 8. Hold the Loft assembly against the Middle Wall, lined up at the back edge. Draw a reference mark near the top edge of the Middle Wall along the edge of the Loft End. (step 8a)

Glue and tape the loft assembly to the Divider and Middle Wall. Use the Spiral Post to support and position the back edge of the Loft Floor. (step 8b)
The reference mark positions the peak of the Loft End. Glue and tape the Loft Rail to the Edge of the Loft Floor. (step 8c)

Review the fit: Make sure all parts are straight, all joints are tight, and the house is on a flat surface as the glue dries.



Preview: In this section, you will attach the right walls.

☐ 9. Hold the Right Side against the Middle Wall lined up at the back edge. Draw a reference mark on the Middle Wall along the front edge of the Right Side. Lift the Right Side and continue the mark so it goes from the Base to the top.

Glue and tape together the Right Front and Right Side with the Right Front in the groove of the Right Side, lined up at the top edges.

☐ 10. Lay the Right Front/Right Side on the Base Floor, touching the Middle Wall. Draw a reference mark on the Base Floor along the right edge of the Right Front.

☐ 11. Glue and tape the Right Front/Right Side to the Base Floor and Middle Wall.

☞ reference line (from 9) positions the Right Front,
☞ reference line (from 10) positions the Right Side.

☐ 12. Glue and tape the Sunroom Side to the Right Front and Base Floor. Tape the Sunroom Front to the Sunroom Side to hold the Sunroom Side straight up-and-down as the glue dries.

Review the fit: Make sure all parts are straight, all joints are tight, and the house is on a flat surface as the glue dries.

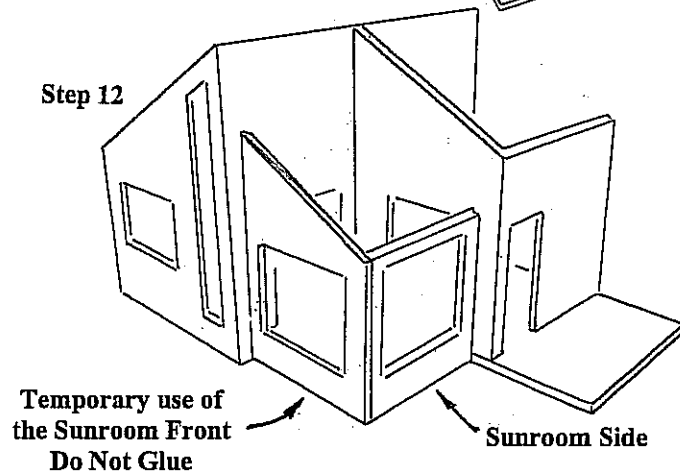
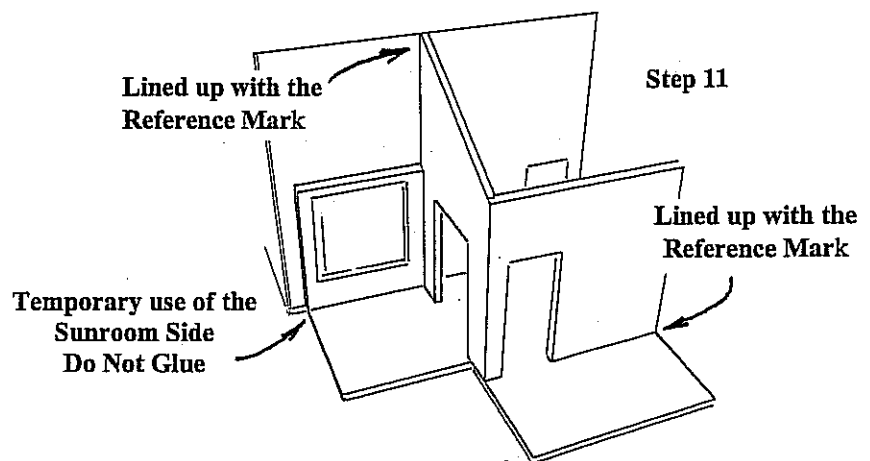
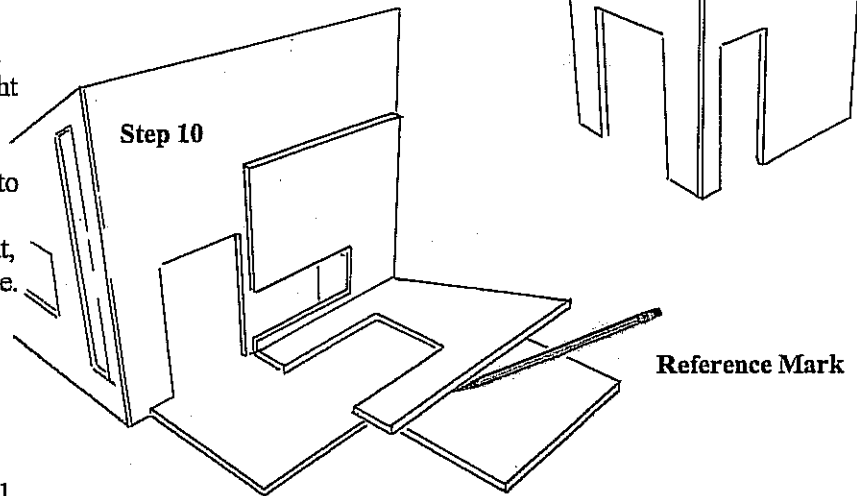
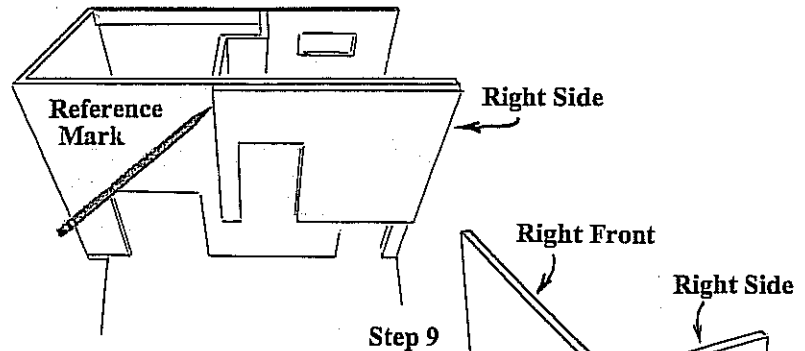
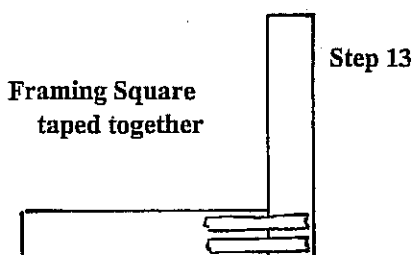
Builder's note: We paint the dollhouse (including the parts that haven't been attached yet) before gluing on the roof.

We paint the inside white, the outside tan, and the trim brown. The Porch Wall and the outside of the Sunroom Walls get one coat of straight paint, then a coat of paint (1/2 pint) mixed with Stucco Grit. Keep the mix stirred, and apply with a foam brush in short swirls, or slap the surface with the brush to make the stucco form random peaks.

Assemble the Windows and Skylights

Windows and skylights are the same

☐ 13. Glue and tape together the Framing Square. Firmly tape the Framing Square to the corner of a table so you can push against it as you stretch rubberbands onto the window sets.



☐ 14. Without glue or rubberbands, lay out all the window sets (each window set has an identical inside and outside frame). Check that you have inside *and* outside frames for each window hole in the Dollhouse.

Without glue, set up one frame; face down in the Framing Square. Stretch a rubberband onto the window parts. When you can do it every time without parts flying, then you are ready for glue.

Builder's note: The bigger the frame, the harder it is to get the rubberband in place. For frames that are too hard, stick the parts to a small piece of masking tape at each corner as you glue the frame together. Then put the frame into the Framing Square to put on the rubberband.

Take off the tape before the glue begins to dry.

☐ 15. Glue and rubberband together one "Triple 6" Casement Window" frame set. Space the 5 5/8 mullions from the frame with the 1 3/4 Mullions from the single windows. Turn the frame over so that it is face-up. Push the mullions to the table surface. Adjust the fit in the corners (with no tape). Remove the 1 3/4 Mullion spacers. Set the frame aside to dry.

Repeat for all the frames you have set out. You need:

- 10 Triple 6" frames to make 5 windows
- 2 Double 6" frames to make 1 window
- 4 Triple 4" frames to make 2 windows
- 2 Double 2" frames to make 1 window
- 1 inside angled frame +
- 1 outside angled frame to make 1 angled window

Set the angled Frames in their window cutout to dry
Paint the frames before they are installed in the house

the Spiral Staircase

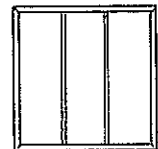
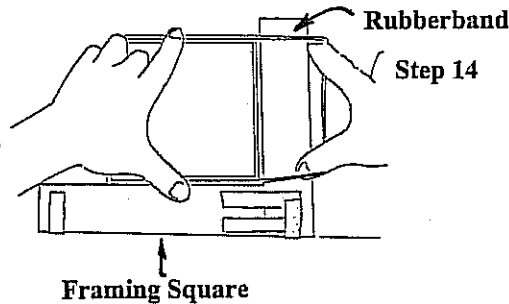
☐ 16. Test the painted Spiral Treads in the slots of the Spiral Post (a tight fit is easier to assemble than a loose fit).

Builder's note: I assembled the Spiral Staircase without glue and painted the set (2 coats), then took it back apart for sanding. I painted again (a light coat) after gluing the staircase together.

Glue the Spiral Treads into the slots. Look from the top to make sure the treads make an even spiral. Let dry.

☐ 17. Test the Spiral Staircase below the loft doorway. Look down from the top and adjust so that the step from the staircase to the loft floor turns the same amount as the rest of the steps. Look from *every* direction to make sure the Spiral Post is straight up-and-down.

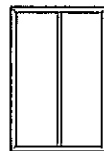
Glue the Spiral Staircase in place.



Triple 6"



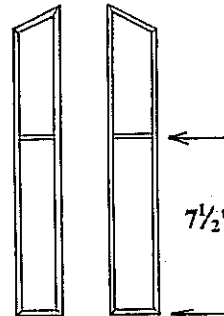
Double 2"



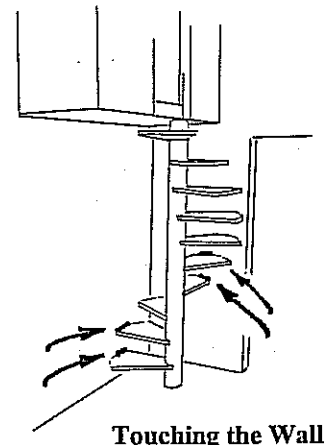
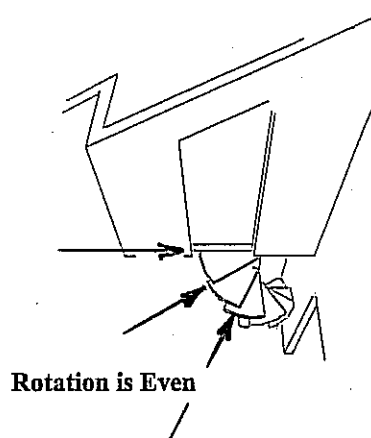
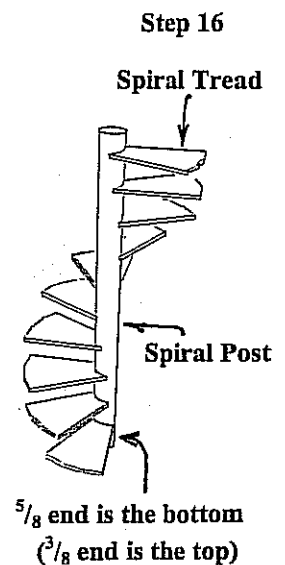
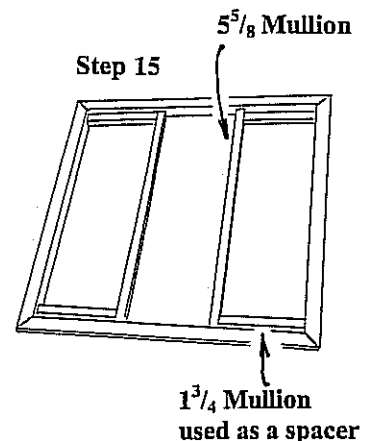
Double 6"



Triple 4"



Angled



Attach the Hinges:

These special Hinges have a bent (L) leaf that attaches to the hinged walls, and a straight leaf that attaches to the fixed walls.

Make sure your #1 Phillips head screwdriver is in new condition.

☐ 18. Lay the Left Side-Front on the edge of the worktable with the groove facing up.

☐ 19. Tape an L Hinge on the front edge of the Left Side-Front, wrapped around the edge of the wall panel, and centered up-and-down (not including the groove).
Punch a starter hole in the center of each hole in the hinge by driving a nail part way through the wall and pulling it back out (don't go all the way through).

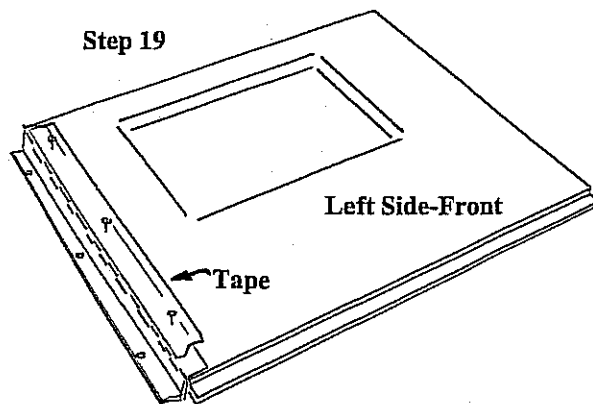
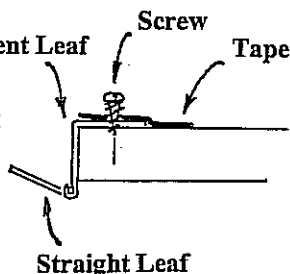
Screw ($\frac{5}{16}$ #2 panhead) the hinge to the wall with a #1 Phillips screwdriver (for final tightening, let the hinge hang over the edge of the work table).

☐ 20. Repeat Step 25 to attach an L Hinge to the Sunroom Front, centered up-and-down.
Cut and glue pieces of Stripwood to the edge of the Sunroom Front above and below the Hinge.

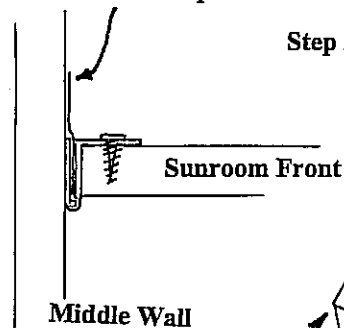
☐ 21. Turn the house onto its left side. Put a strip of tape on the straight leaf of the Sunroom Front's hinge. The tape must be wider and longer than the hinge.
Hold the Sunroom Front in place, lifted slightly above the bottom edge of the Base Floor, and with the top edge of the Sunroom Side sticking up a little above the right corner of the Sunroom Front.
Reach into the Sunroom, and rub the tape to stick the hinge to the Middle Wall.

☐ 22. Open the Sunroom Front carefully and have some support ready to hold the front so the hinge's position won't change.
Punch a starter hole in the center of each hole by driving a nail part way through the wall (don't go all the way through), then pulling it back out.
Drive in the screws with a #1 Phillips screwdriver.

☐ 23. Turn the house onto its front. Repeat the above hinging process for the Left Side-Front



Rub Down the Tape

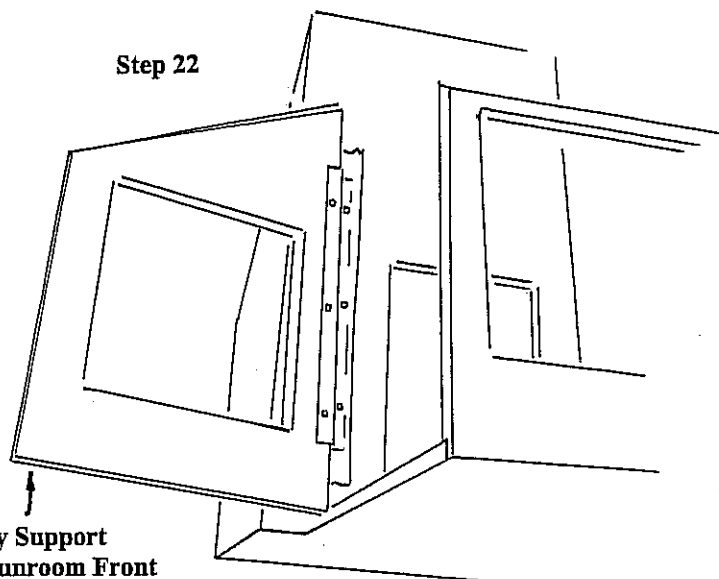


Reach into the Sunroom To Rub Down the Tape

Sunroom Front

Sunroom Side

Step 22



Gently Support The Sunroom Front

Left Front

Draw Shingle Guidelines

☐ 24. Now is the easiest time to draw shingling guidelines on the Roof panels, but don't attach the Shingles yet. Draw the first line one shingle-length above the bottom edge. Draw the rest of the lines spaced 1" apart.

Attach the Roofs:

☐ 25. Lay out the Roofs with the peak bevels touching. Tape the roofs together across the peak.

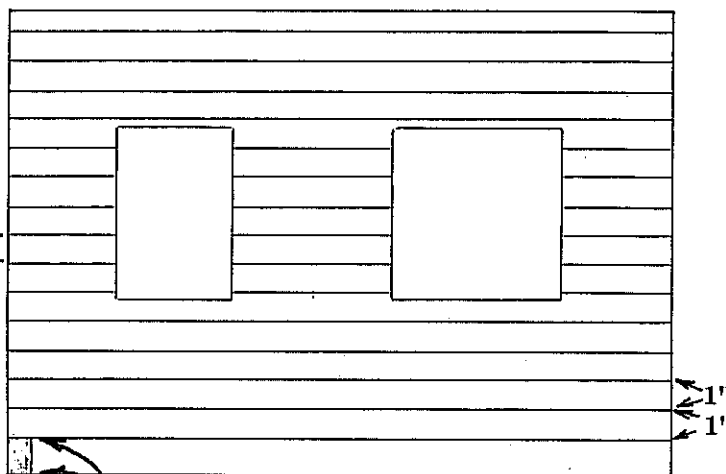
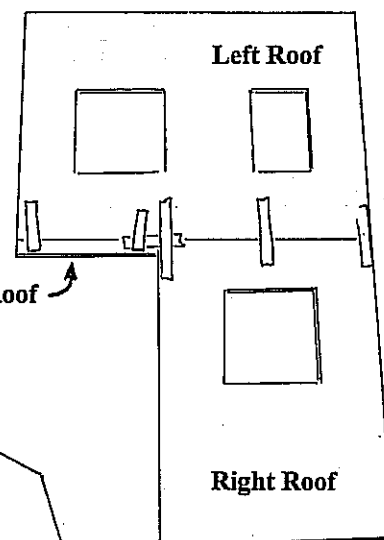
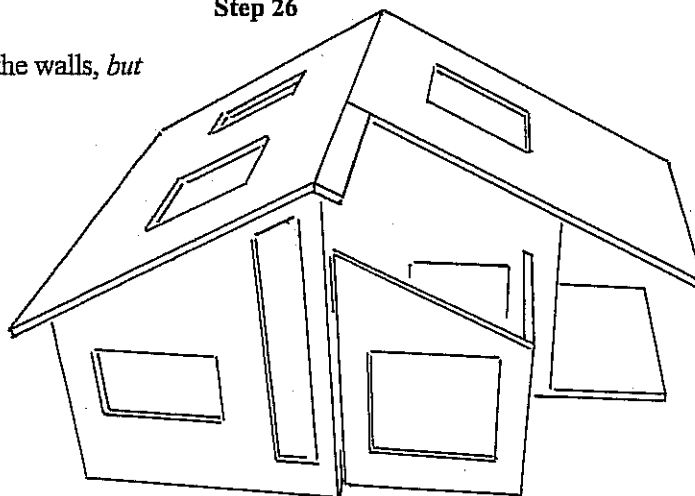
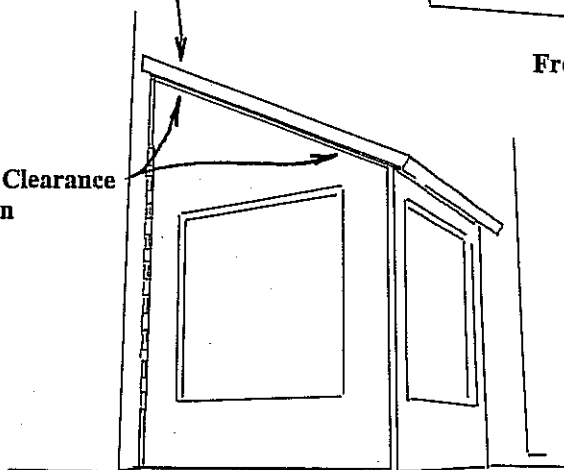
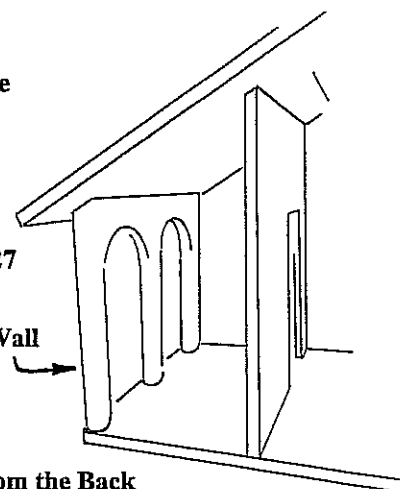
☐ 26. Glue and tape the Roofs in place, with the same overhang at the front and back.

☐ 27. Test then glue the Porch Wall in place, snug between the Right Roof and Base Floor, spaced evenly from the floor's edge, and straight up-and-down.

☐ 28. Test the Sunroom Roof on the Sunroom. Look under the eave in the front to make sure the Sunroom Roof is evenly spaced above the Sunroom Front (swing clearance for the hinged Sunroom Front). Make sure the Sunroom Side is straight up-and-down. Mark the position of the Sunroom Roof on the Middle Wall and Right Front.

Glue and tape the Sunroom Roof to the walls, *but not to the Sunroom Front*.

Let the glue dry

**One Shingle Length****Peak Bevels Touching****Step 25****Step 26****Front and Back Overhang is the Same****Step 28****Sunroom Roof****Swing Clearance is Even****Step 27****Porch Wall****View From the Back**

☐ 29. Finish painting the outside of the dollhouse.

☐ 30. Glue and tape interior window frames into each window and skylight hole.

Punch out the window panes. Set a pane in each window and skylight hole.

Glue and tape exterior window frames into each window and skylight hole.

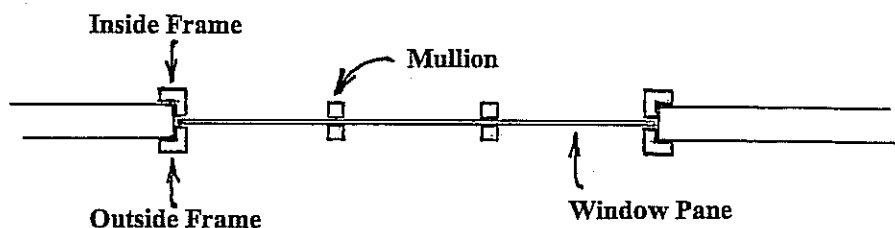
☐ 31. Glue the Door into the door hole.

☐ 32. Cut and glue Stripwood to trim the corners.

For the angled pieces, cut and test the angle at the top, hold the Stripwood in place, then cut off the bottom lined up with the bottom of the house.

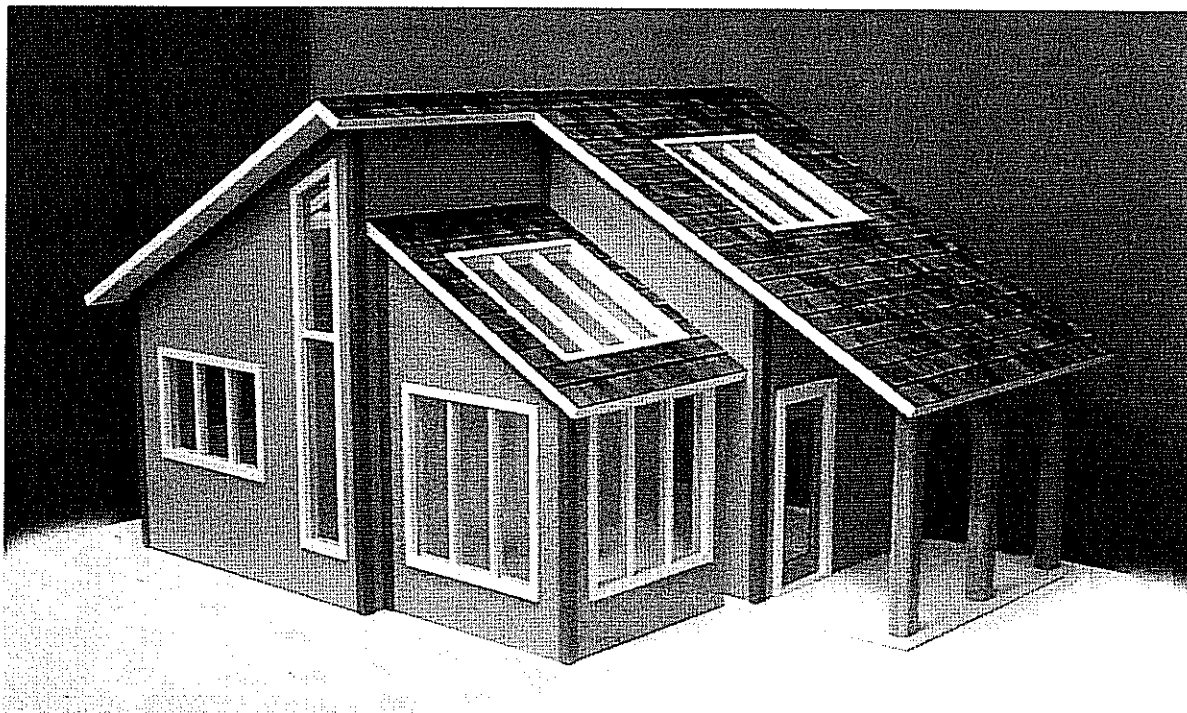
Leftover Stripwood can trim the inside of the door, and can also be cut (2") into Lifter pads. Glue Lifter Pads to the bottom of the Base Floor about 1/4" away from the edges at each corner, and wherever extra support is needed to prevent sagging. The clearance from the Lifter Pads protects the Base Floor and the bottom edges of the Walls from scuffing in normal use.

Triple Window set viewed from the top



Stripwood

Angled Stripwood



☐ 32B. Leftover Stripwood can trim the inside of the door, and can also be cut into 2" Lifter pads. Glue lifter Pads to the bottom of the Base Floor about 1/4" away from the edges at each corner, and wherever extra support is needed to prevent sagging.

The clearance from the Lifter Pads protects the Base Floor and the bottom edges of the Walls from scuffing in normal use.

☐ 33. Attach the Shingles: Use a thick panel adhesive such as Liquid Nails[®] Maccos available in caulking gun tubes at building supply stores. Trim just a little of the end of the tube for a tiny hole, giving a thin bead of glue. Always use good ventilation with solvent based adhesives.

A. Starter shingles: Cut regular shingles into 1/4" long square-edged starters (use scissors). Glue a row of starters along the bottom of each roof.

B. Apply a thin line of adhesive just below the lowest guideline all the way across one roof. Press the top edge of a shingle into the line of glue, squeezing out the excess. Hold the first shingle and press another shingle into the adhesive, tight to the first. Hold the next shingle and press in another... etc. all the way across the roof, cutting the last shingle to fit. Start the next row with a half shingle so that the seam between shingles is staggered back and forth as you go up the roof. Line up the top edge of each row (except the starters) with the guidelines. Continue up the roof one row at a time.

C. Cut Shingles to fit around the Skylights without interrupting the shingle pattern:

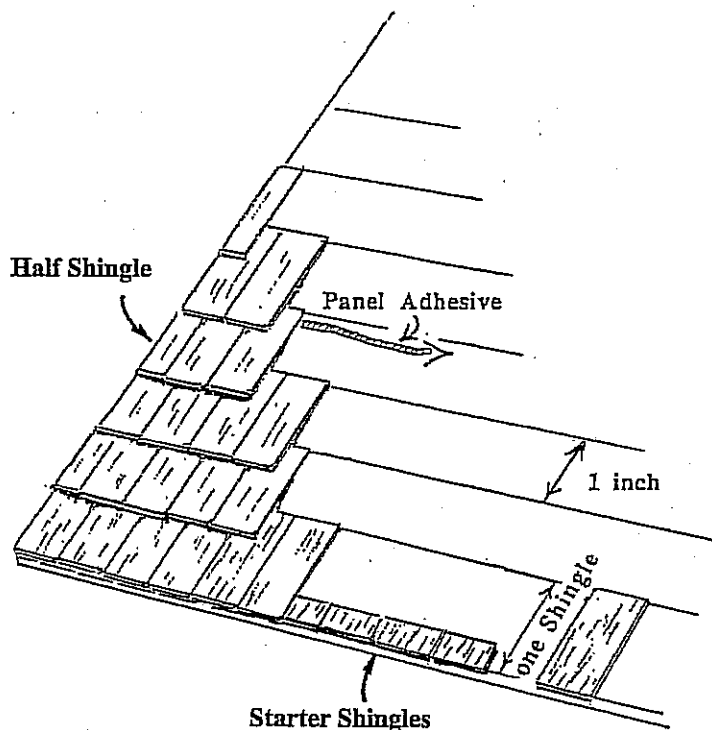
Cut the edges off the last shingle in the row that butts the skylight, and cut the first shingle on the other edge of the skylight so the seam between shingles continues the back and forth pattern (called "staggered" above) with the next row down.

Cut the top edges off the shingles that complete the row below a skylight so that the bottom edge of the whole row is straight.

Cut "starters" to keep the top edge of the row above the skylight straight.

Cut the top row of shingles (at the peak) so that the next row down will have the same reveal (1") as all the rest of the rows.

Finish the peak with "Boston Lap" pairs of shingles laid horizontally. Start at the ends of the peak, and, with each pair overlapping the previous pair, work to the middle.



**The Dollhouse Assembly part of your project is done
Enjoy the Rest**