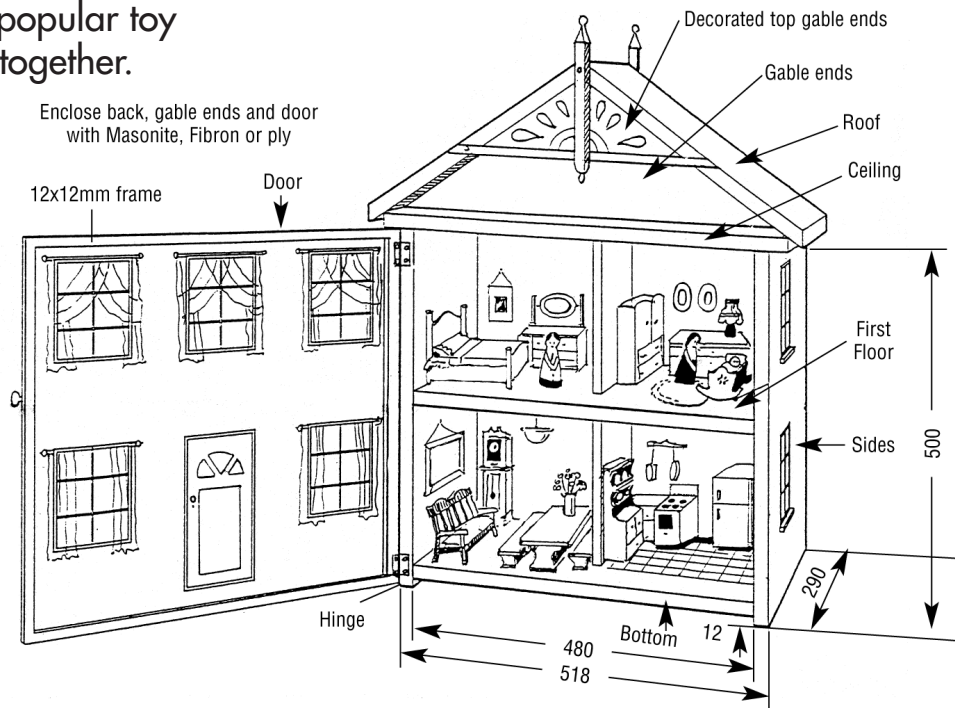


HOW TO

MAKE A DOLLS HOUSE

The dolls house is a popular toy you and your child can make together. The following plan is easy to assemble and will be a favourite for years to come.

Construction ideas: For windows in the front wall, cut out clear polyester film and attach on the inside of the windows. Side windows can be painted on. The door, pattern of flowers, trees, light and bell can be either made or painted on.



WHERE TO BEGIN

Walls and Floors: Cut to length the two sides, bottom, first floor and ceiling. Sandpaper the corners with 120 grit paper. Attach the sides to the bottom floor first, followed by the first floor, then the ceiling. Apply PVA adhesive to all wood joints and secure joints of 19mm thick pine members with either 3/50x2.0mm bullet head nails or 3/40x8 gauge countersunk screws. Alternatively, use a powered driver and pre-drill the screw holes. Use rib head chipboard screws.

Attaching the back: Cut the back to size and adjust the already assembled walls and floor into square alignment. Nail the back into place.

Building the roof: Using 19mm dressed pine, cut out the two roof sides, the gable ends and the decorated top gables. These are best assembled before fastening the roof down to the ceiling. When making the decorative gable ends, follow this design or create your own. The Federation period has many variations. Screw the roof down to the ceiling from the roof top surface.

Making the front: NOTE: The whole front wall is the door.

Wall/Door: Cut the sheet material to size then cut and attach the 12x12mm strips. The 19x12mm strip should be attached to the hinge side to accommodate the hinges. Attach the strips to the sheet material with PVA adhesive and fasten with staples or 12mm flat head pins.

Windows: Cut out as shown on the illustration. Cut clear polyester film or perspex to adhere to the perimeter back side of the openings. Adhere with contact adhesive. Paint the glazing bars in with a black permanent felt tip pen suitable for plastic surfaces.

Decorations: Finish the wall and house with several coats of acrylic paint. Before hinging the front wall, complete the decorations using either miniature cut-outs or a permanent felt tip pen. Shape the steps using a solid piece of pine. Glue and screw in place from the back side.

Hanging the door: Hinge the door using either 2/50mm long flush hinges or for a stronger job use a piano hinge. Ensure the door is at least 5mm above the bottom of the house to prevent it binding on the floor or ground.

Finishing: Fit a magnetic or similar catch to hold the wall closed when not in use. Attach a knob or handle to enable your child to easily open the wall. Bricks and tiles can now be painted on the walls and roof. Adding curtains is also a nice finishing touch.

You may wish to build some furniture for your dolls house as shown in the diagrams. Check for materials and ideas in your local Bunnings Warehouse craft department.

TOOLS

- Tape measure and square
- Powered driver or Phillips head screwdriver
- Hammer
- Fine toothed panel saw or power saw

MATERIALS

- Timber
 - Sides, floors, ceiling and roof: 290x19 dressed pine. Select flat pieces
 - Back, gables and front wall claddings: either, 6mm MDF, 4.5mm or 6mm hardboard or 6mm ply, 1/900x600mm.
 - Door frame strips: 3/12x12mm, 550mm long pine and 1/19x12mm, 500mm long pine
 - Partitions: 12mm pine for easier fastening.
- Roof decorations
- Door knob or handle
- Staple gun and staples or 12mm flat head nail pins
- Nails or screws: 50mmx2.0 bullet head or preferably 40mmx8 gauge rib head countersunk Phillips head screws
- Adhesive: PVA trade quality and small tube of contact adhesive
- Hinges: 2/50mm long flush hinges or piano hinge
- Handle and magnetic catch
- Paint and decorations
- Sandpaper: 120 grit

SAFETY

- Always keep tools and materials away from children.
- Read the instructions before beginning your project.
- Wear an approved dust mask when cutting, planing or sanding timber AS/N251716.

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