



Scratchbuilding with 3D Building Materials Cut Lintels, Install Corners

www.monstermodelworks.com

The most realistic brick on the market today, these 3D engraved sheets are from actual photos of brick walls. We engrave every detail into basswood with a laser.

Why put brick on wood?

For modelers who love to work with wood and have been hesitant to work with plaster or resin, now you can stay in your comfort zone.

The wood grain and knots add to the overall detail of the final look and since no two sheets have the same grain, each sheet is completely different. After painting and weathering no one can tell it is wood.

Now traveling models and layouts can actually have brick buildings. Drop pounds from your display layouts and modules as plaster is heavy.

Need anymore reasons?

Basic Info

When working with any wood product it is recommended to use as little water as possible. This is especially true when painting or weathering our 3D basswood sheets. No need to thin any acrylic paints. We always recommend bracing your walls before painting.

The 1/8" sheets are to be used as your main wall, all add-on parts should be glued to this sheet prior to painting or weathering. The shadowing in the photo make the bricks "directional" so turn your sheet upside down and choose the top by which ever looks best to you. There is no wrong way as painting and weathering hide the effect. This is true for all our 3D brick products except the lintels.

The 1/32" thick Brick Sheets are intended to be used for add-on pieces such as columns, wall joiners, lintels and corbels. If you choose to use the 1/32" sheets as the base for your walls, we recommend mounting your walls to chipboard before bracing. Included with your purchase of 1/32" thick Brick Sheets is a piece of chipboard. Use standard white glue, we prefer Canopy Glue.

You can prime the sheets before painting but it is not necessary. All standard forms of brick painting work well, just remember no thinning is needed for your acrylic paints. We prefer to use weathering powders applied with 99% Isopropyl Alcohol (91% will work).

Cutting windows and doors into the 1/8" thick sheets is best done with a #11 saw tooth blade; it is basically a saw for your Xacto knife. Micro Mark and Monster Modelworks have them available. Mark out the opening of the window and cut from the backside.

More instruction on how to cut windows and doors will be released in a separate document. If you don't want to cut your own openings, we offer a Laser Cutting service for all 12"X4" sheets. You supply the CAD drawing the charge is only \$5.00.

Below we will talk about some basic tips and techniques to make your structure easy to build and look great on your layout or diorama.

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Bracing

Always brace your walls before painting. This helps keep the walls from warping. We use 1/8" Sq. stripwood. Space evenly along entire wall; be sure to think about how your corners join before gluing your bracing to the end of each wall. See photo below

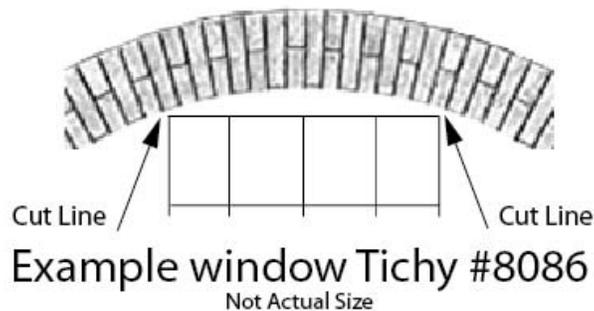


Lintels

Modelers can use these details with any of our brick styles and works with most commercial doors and windows. The 3 tier version has a slightly tighter radius than the 2 tier version.

Cut Instructions:

First carefully cut out the entire lintel. Line up the top of any window or door to the middle of the Lintel, as see in the example below.



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Once you have followed the instructions on how to find your lintel size, you are ready to cut. The best way to cut is by using a single edge razor blade. I use a .99 blade holder found at any Hardware Store.



Use a “chopping” motion to cut straight through the mortar line. Once you have one Lintel cut, line it up to make sure it fits your window properly.

Once you know the size is right, lay your cut Lintel on top of the uncut Lintels and cut on the mortar line. Always make your cuts on the mortar line. See photo above.

Glue directly on to your structure before painting. Always attach your add-on brick parts to your 1/8” sheet brick, then paint and weather all together. We use Canopy Glue but any white or yellow glue would work.



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Corner Pieces

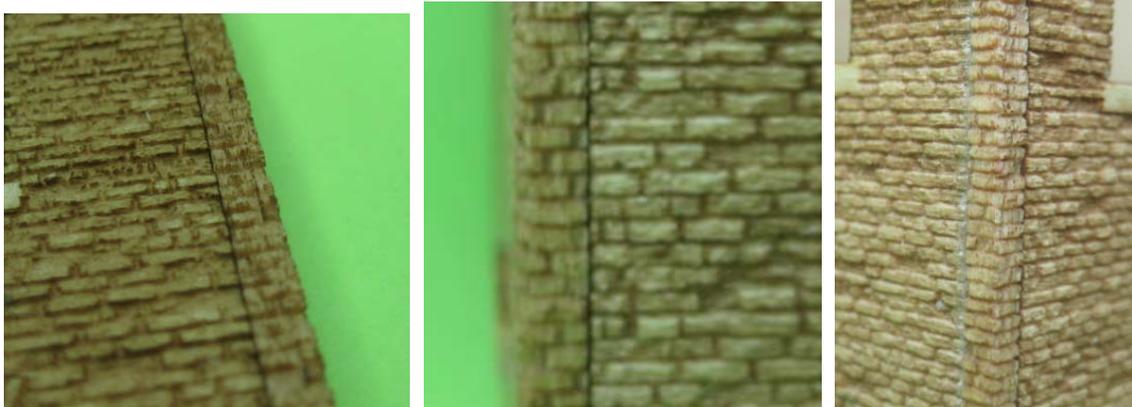
Our Corner Pieces are used to join the sides of structures; they are 1/8" square so remember to adjust the length of your walls by 1/4". If you have the ability to cut the ends of your walls at 45 degrees with a tilt arbor table saw, you will have perfect corners. Then you would not need these Corner Pieces...



The most important step is to make sure the wall end and the corner ends are perfectly sanded flat, if not the bricks will not line up properly and you will have gaps. In most cases a very light sanding will do. If you can see a gap while dry fitting, then you need to sand more.

Cut the corner piece slightly longer than needed, keep moving the corner in all directions, even turn the corner upside down as are looking for the best possible match, once you find what looks good to you glue it on.

Once the corner is glued to one wall, the other wall will line right up.



Even if your Bricks are not perfectly lined up, everything will become lost in the detail when finished. Once your corners are glued on and dry, you can continue attaching the next side.

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Once your Corner Pieces are installed and dry, you may need to scratch up the joint lines between the bricks. Not too much...

Look for our Painting and Weathering download to learn how to paint your brick.