

MINIATURE MANSIONS

How to guide...

FITTING MOULDINGS INTO A BAY WINDOW

This method does not require the need to know the angle at which to cut your mouldings. For this exercise I have made a simple bay window (photo 1), however, this process can be used for chimney breasts and alcoves, etc. This process requires the cardboard pattern to go flush against the wall i.e. no skirting boards.

Pic 1



Step 1

To start cut strips of card which will be used to make a pattern to work from (photo 2).

Step 2

Cut the lengths of card to go around the bay and glue them together (photo 3). Make sure the strips are tight up against the wall and right into the corners of the bay. It is very important that this stage is correct, as this is your pattern. A mistake in this will be reproduced in the mouldings. (photo 4).

Step 3

Now on a piece of card large enough to put the pattern on, draw a straight line (photo 5). Hold, or pin your pattern down onto the card, (photo 6). On the card I have marked red squares, align this part of the pattern along the pencil line. Carefully draw around the pattern. Taking the pattern off the card you should have the outline of the shape of the bay (photo 7).

Step 4

Now using your chosen cornice, (here I am using SM 12 from the Miniature Mansions range) you need to draw the footprint of your moulding onto the card. Turn the moulding upside down so that the surface which goes against the ceiling is now against the card. Aligning the moulding with the lines you have on the card, draw a line on the opposite side the moulding (photo 8). Once you have done this on all the faces you should have the outline of the pattern.

Pic 2



Pic 3



CONTACT

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Here you can download our brochure. Or you can email or phone 07786 397871.



Step 4

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Step 5

Drawing a line through the corners (photo 10, marked in red) this gives you the angles you need to cut.

Step 6

Place your moulding back onto the card, this time the correct way up. Align the end just over the red line using the stock of a square against the moulding. Mark a line on the top of the moulding (photo 11). Carefully, without moving the moulding, mark the back where the red line meets the moulding (photo 12), and using the square, draw a line from this point to the top of the moulding (photo 13). Draw a line across the top from the mark at the front to the one at the back (photo 14). These are the marks you need to cut to.

Step 7

Hold the moulding on a bench hook, carefully cut along the lines using a razor saw (photo 15). When cutting, let the saw do the work. Take your time; the harder or faster you push, the more likely it is to go off the line.



Do not worry about the resin moulding it will not snap or chip whilst you're cutting) Clean any saw marks using a sanding stick. Make sure you do not alter the angle (photo 16).

Step 8

Now cut the next section, marking it out etc as previously described. Tack the two pieces together with super glue using the out line on the card as the guide (photo 17).

Step 9

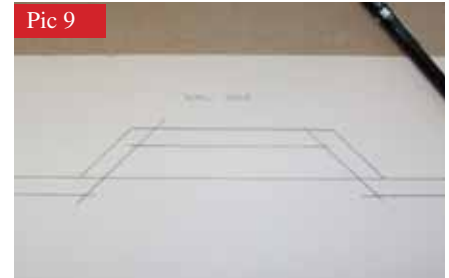
Check to ensure it fits in your dolls house. Should you need to adjust the fit, snap them apart. Super glue is brittle and should snap without harming the resin moulding and the glue can be cleaned of with a scalpel. Adjust fit by sanding. Repeat the process - mark, cut, tack and check until you have the completed shape (photo 18). If there are gaps between sections these can be filled later.

Step 10

Now, to sort out those annoying little gaps. Using masking tape, tape either side of the joint, just slightly wider than the gap to filled (photo 19, I have used parcel tape for clarity). The tape will protect the moulding from excess filler.

Step 11

Mix car filler on a scrap piece of MDF or card (photos 20 & 21). Carefully fill the joint making sure to push the filler into the gap. Then clean of the majority of excess filler following the shape of the moulding (photo 22).



Step 12

Once the filler has hardened completely remove the tape. This should leave a minimal amount of filler to sand (photo 23). Where ever possible, use a sanding stick and carefully sand the surplus filler without damaging the moulding (photo 24).

Step 13

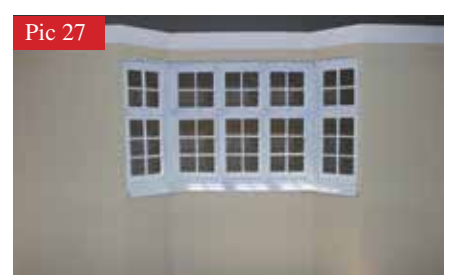
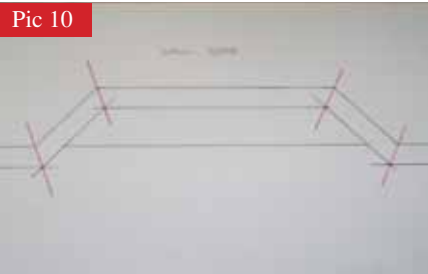
Once sanded down, using double sided tape, fix the moulding on to a stick for spraying (photo 25). Spray the moulding with light coats of white car primer. Wait for each coat to dry before applying the next. Repeat this until the filler can no longer be seen and the moulding looks like one piece (photo 26).

Step 14

When the paint has dried check that the gaps have been filled to your satisfaction (you can only tell once primed). If not, where necessary fill and sand etc. Once satisfied the moulding is ready to be painted to the required finish. Finally, to glue it in place - I use U.H.U. General Purpose or similar (photo 27). This glue needs time to set, so it will need holding in place. The reason for using this type of glue is that it allows the moulding to move, especially important if you move your dolls house, because the house will flex which could make the moulding part company from your walls.

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