

crafter's corner

Half Inch Scale Fireplace

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This fireplace was designed as a workshop for the 1987 N.A.M.E. Gathering at Kimberley, Ontario. It is adaptable for use anytime in the last two hundred years. The construction time, after cutting the wood, is about five hours. This includes time needed for the paints and varnish to dry. Build it in sections, so that one piece can be drying while you prepare the next.

SUPPLIES:

Stain: Minwax or other oil-based stain is preferred

Water-base Varnish: semigloss or matte, available at art supply stores

Acrylic Craft Paint:

Grey— concrete or mortar coloured

Cream, White or Black for the front of the mantel base

Brick colour or colours

Glue: Tacky white glue is preferred

TOOLS:

Wood cutter: Miter cutter, mini wood cutter or Chopper

X-acto knife

Sandpaper: fine and extra fine

Paint brushes

Ruler

Sharp pencil

Gluing jig

Tweezers

Waxed paper

Toothpicks: to apply glue

Cloth rag

Cosmetic wedge sponge

WOOD:

1. $1/32 \times 1/16$ stripwood, 4" (to be cut to length later)
2. $1/32 \times 1/8$ stripwood, 4" (to be cut later)

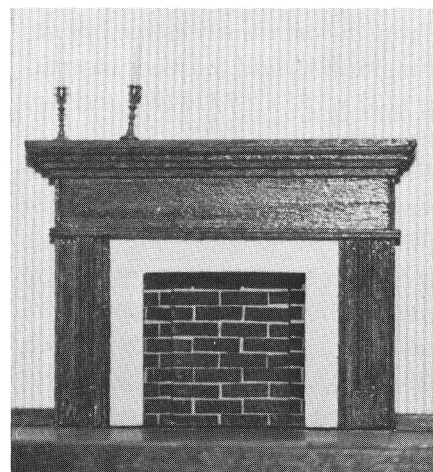
3. $1/32 \times 5/32$ stripwood, 6" (to be cut later)
4. $1/32 \times 1/2 \times 2-7/16$
- 5.-6. $1/32 \times 3/8 \times 1-3/8$ (i.e. 2 pieces)
7. $1/16 \times 1/4 \times 2-5/8$
8. $1/16 \times 5/16 \times 2-3/4$
9. $1/16 \times 3/8 \times 2-7/8$
10. $1/32$ quarter round moulding, 4" (to be cut later)
11. $1/16$ cove moulding, 4" (to be cut later)
12. $1/16$ double bead moulding, 12" (to be cut later)
13. $1/16 \times 5/8 \times 1-7/16$
- 14.-15. $1/16 \times 1/2 \times 1-7/8$ (2 pieces)
16. $1/16 \times 3/4 \times 2-7/16$
- 17.-18. $1/16 \times 5/8 \times 1-1/8$ (2 pieces)
19. $1/32 \times 3/4 \times 2-1/2$
20. $1/16 \times 7/8 \times 1-3/8$
- 21.-22. $1/16 \times 7/16 \times 1-3/8$ (2 pieces)
23. $1/32 \times 3/32$ stripwood, 2 strips, each 24" long (to be cut into bricks)
24. $1/16 \times 3-1/4 \times$ height of ceiling
- 25.-26. $1/4 \times 1/4 \times$ height of ceiling
- 27.-28. $1/4 \times 1/4 \times 2-1/2$

HINTS: Cut the wood pieces very carefully. They must fit more exactly in $1/2$ " scale. Apply stain and paint sparingly, trying not to get the wood too wet. Use as little glue as possible—just enough to hold the pieces. Tacky glue will allow you to reposition the pieces as it is necessary.

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Fireplace trim and mantel top.
Lightly sand all pieces of wood. Stain the pieces numbered 1 to 12 using a rag dipped into the stain and as little stain as possible on the wood. Set the pieces aside to dry,

2. Fireplace base.



Glue pieces 13 thru 15 together to make the back of the mantel base (see fig. 1). Then take pieces 16 thru 18 and glue them together to make the front of the mantel base (see fig. 2), and glue the front on top of the back to make a strong, sturdy mantel. Cover the front, sides and top with a layer of sealer or varnish, and leave the mantel to dry.

3. Hearth and firebox:

Using the $1/32 \times 3/32$ stripwood and a wood cutter, cut a supply of bricks $11/32$ " long and a few half-bricks $5/32$ " long (see fig. 3). Take the hearth piece 19 and apply bricks over it as shown (in fig. 4). Glue seven bricks evenly across the first row, then six bricks and two half-bricks across the second row. Continue these two rows alternately until there are six rows of bricks. Align all bricks by eye or use a cardboard spacer. Set pieces 20 thru 22 as shown (in fig. 5), and glue bricks as shown, beginning at the bottom of each piece. Keep rows aligned across all three pieces and continue to the top. Paint all four bricked pieces with grey mortar-coloured paint. Let the

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