

TOTE BAG

What is a Tote Bag?

By Sharon and Dan Zerkel, Over The Hill Retreat Totebag Chairmen

Tote bags are one of the most eagerly anticipated parts of the Houseparty. Everyone receives one. They are usually handed out at registration and everyone has a great time opening them to see what is in it. There are usually hand-made miniatures, tools such as packages of universal gluing tool (toothpicks, sometimes the neat turned ones), and found objects. The more inventive and original they are the better. The sky is the limit, and the only thing you need to worry about if you are donating is to get them turned in on time.

In the case of this Houseparty in the *Gazette* we decided to provide you with several items made of cardstock that you or your group could make for your tote bag. Plus a couple of wood items to make if you (or a friend) have some simple tools to cut out parts. There is a logo to use on your bag, or in any way you want for your 'houseparty celebration.' And a little commemorative label for you to print and put on your retreat project. (See page 75 for label cutouts.) Plus a list of suggestions for other favors that are 'theme oriented' that you could add to your tote.

We hope that you will use these patterns to make favors for your celebration of the Over the Hill Retreat Houseparty.

For a tote bag that fits the theme you could use a plain paper lunch bag. Turn the top edge down and punch a couple of holes in the turned down top for raffia or rope. Also Glue a copy of the logo to the outside of the bag.



Commemorative Label
Cutout on page 75



Paper Tote Bag Items

Supplies:

- Sharp Pointed Scissors
- X-Acto Knife
- Metal ruler
- Tweezers
- Radio Shack clips (alligator clips with no teeth)
- Gripp or Tacky glue
- 110 lb. Cardstock paper

General Information:

All items are drawn in 1/2" scale. If you want 1" scale copy the patterns at 200%. If you want it 1/4" scale copy at 50%. To check if the copies are not distorted measure the mailbox post. It should measure 1/2" square x 2-1/2" long in 1/2" scale.

It would be best to copy the patterns on 110 lb. cardstock or poster board to make the folds crisp and easy to hold on to when you are coloring or gluing. Make an extra copy for practice.

To color items you can use colored pencils (Pentel or Crayola) for best results. Or have it copied on colored paper.

When scoring paper I use the back edge of an X-Acto knife blade and a metal ruler. Lightly draw down the scored line with the knife. You might want to practice this several times first.

I would score the pieces, then color the pieces as directed in each pattern, and then cut out the pieces. Score and cut on the printed lines. The score lines are marked with arrows at either end.

Then fold the pieces on the scored lines as directed. You can use a metal ruler to help fold the lines. Crease the lines with your thumbnail. Test assemble each section. Glue with a small amount of glue. Use tweezers or small clips to hold in place for a few seconds and then move to the next glue area.

There will be specific information for each piece. Work slowly, and have fun.

Enjoy these additions to your retreat.



Mailbox with Post

Post:

Score, color on side with fold lines, cut out each section. Crease lines and fold lines to outside. Glue the long side together first. Glue and tuck in flaps on either end. Substitute a piece of wood if you wish.

Mailbox:

Score, color on side without fold lines, cut out each section. Crease fold lines and fold lines to inside. Add the mailbox cover design if you would like.



To reinforce the box glue pieces A, B, C to the areas on the mailbox that are marked with those letters. Center all three of them in the spaces so that you see the lines around the edges. This will be the inside of the mailbox.

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Tote Bag

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On the mailbox the little lines drawn on flaps represent cuts for the front and back curved edge of the mailbox. Help the top of the mailbox to curve by rolling this section over a pencil. Glue the clipped edge to the inside of the box. And glue D & F flaps to the inside.

Curl the long narrow strip between your thumb and finger. Make sure that the cut flaps along the front door are standing up and start to glue the narrow strip to the outside of these flaps. Start from one end and work to the other. Cut off extra end of strip.

Hold the pieces together with clips.

Fold in half and glue the handle piece. Gently curve into a J shape. Set aside.

Fold and glue the flag and set aside.

Glue the long side flap G to the bottom inside edge C of the mailbox. Then put glue on the back edge flaps and clipped flap, and fold them inside the box. Use a pencil to press the flaps inside to the back. Shape the top to fit the top curve of the front and back, and hold in place until glue sets up. Glue handle on front and flag on side. Glue to post.

Birdhouse

Score and color the house on the printed side; do the same for the roof on the shingle side and cut out each section. Fold lines of house to outside and crease scored lines with thumbnail. You can punch a hole in the front with a really small hole punch.



Glue the two top sides together at the peak, tab to inside.

All tabs should be folded in so that when you fold up the rest of the house they will be ready to go to the inside.

Glue side tabs to back. Take your time and let glue set as you go.

Then glue top tabs to sides. Then front tabs to sides, and top tabs to front peak.

Finally fold shingled roof and glue roof in place.

Porch Light

Score, color on printed side, cut out each section. Fold to outside, and crease scored lines with thumbnail. Squares A, B, and C are to glue to the top to give the light more dimension.

Glue the tab on the end side to the side edge first. Make sure the top and bottom edges are even.

Then glue tabs on top and bottom inside the edges of the cutouts.

Glue the top squares on, starting with the largest first. And you are finished.



Tool Box

Score, color (inside and outside), cut out the tool box, handle, and latch. Fold and crease with thumbnail. Fold all scored lines to the outside except the hinge line that holds the top and bottom together. That will be folded the opposite way. Be sure to score along the lines on the handle (barbell shape) where the ends connect to the bar.

For extra stability there are extra flaps on the open sides of the top and bottom of the tool box. First glue these to the inside of the box. Fold and crease carefully. Use clips to hold in place if necessary.

Glue the side tabs on inside back edges to the back edge of the box on both sides. You can fold the hinge line back to the outside so that you can use clips to hold in place until glue sets. Repeat with the other back side tabs.

Then glue the front side tabs to the front edges of the box on both sides.

The top will be the slightly shallower part of the box. Roll the center part of the handle over a round handle to curve. When the box is dry glue both ends of the handle to the top of the box.

Allowing the handle to be as tall as you like.

Cut out the two little latch pieces. Glue one centered to the outside of the front top opening edge, and one behind it inside the opening. Glue about half way down on the latch and let the end of one hang down outside and the other inside. Clamp and let dry.



Wooden Trellis

This is a simple way to make a trellis in any size. The one we made with these instructions is made to fit on the end of the Retreat. But you can adjust it to any size, and use it in any place.

Use graph paper to keep the slats straight. Measure the spot where you want the trellis to go.

Draw a rectangle or other shape on the graph paper. Then tape a piece of wax paper over the graph paper so that you can use the pattern again.

Use double stick tape to make a border on the wax paper inside the rectangle along the top and bottom of the trellis pattern. This will hold the slats in place until you glue them.

We used these sizes of strip wood. You can adjust them for your project and to get the look you want. We used 1/32" thick basswood. Try different sizes for different looks.

For 1" Scale use 3/16" strip wood

For 1/2" Scale use 3/32" strip wood

For 1/4" Scale use 1/16" strip wood

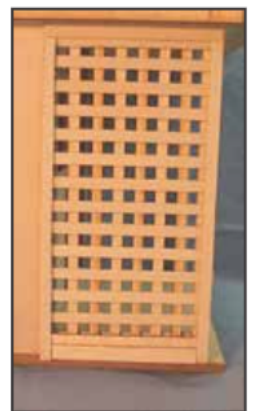
For a Grid Trellis

Cut slats to length from top to bottom. Trial fit them on your pattern to see if your spaces between look good to you. The spaces should be as wide or wider than the slats. Then cut side-to-side pieces. All slats should be long enough to go to the outside edge of your pattern.

Lay the longest pieces down from top to bottom on the tape and lined up with the shape on the graph paper. Start at the middle and use an extra piece of wood as a spacer between slats. Depending on the size of your trellis you may have to fudge a bit to get the pieces in or cut more than you think you need. Use a wider space if you want a more open look. Next starting at the middle of the side do the same with the short pieces, using a bit of glue on each long slat where the short slats lay on top.

When you are finished you can frame out the trellis on both sides by cutting short slats to fit the top and bottom inside the pattern line.

Then measuring the length and cutting the long slats needed to fit both sides. Glue in place. Frame both front and back of the trellis, so that the trellis is sandwiched between the frames. You can add longer square posts to each side of the trellis if you want to extend it to sit above the ground.



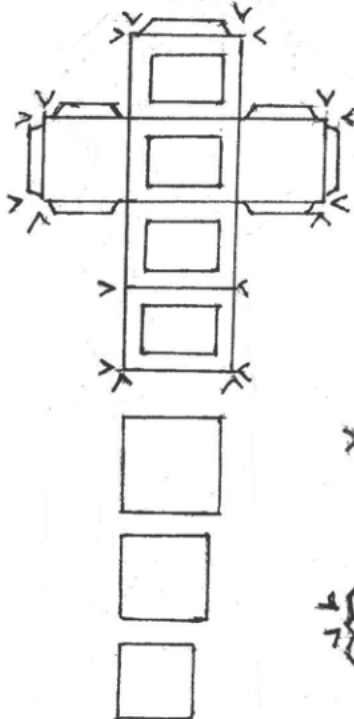
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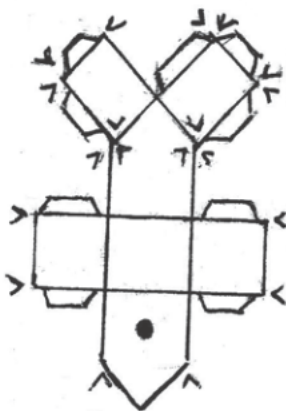
Paper Tote Bag Items

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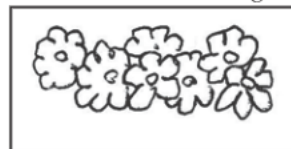
Porch Light
1/2" scale



Birdhouse
1/2" scale

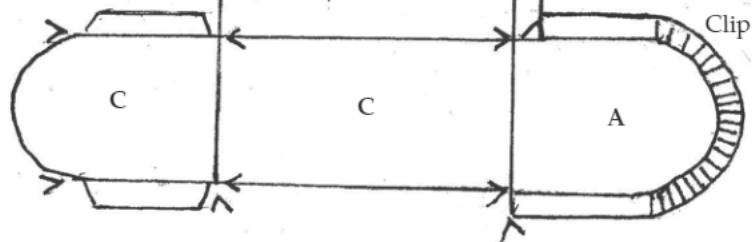
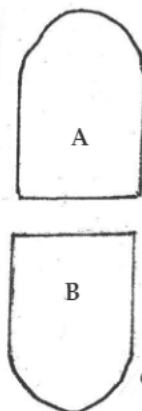
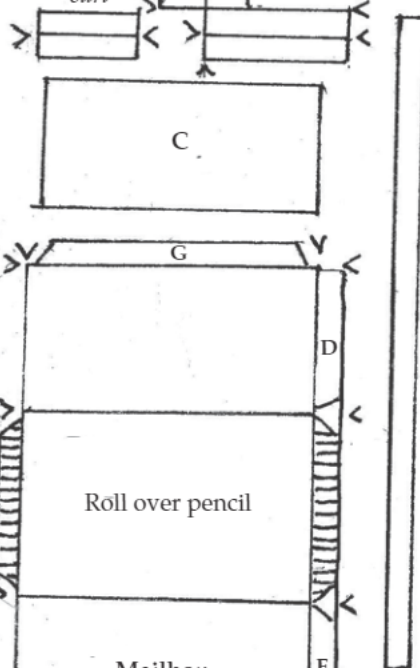


Mailbox - cover design

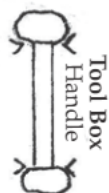
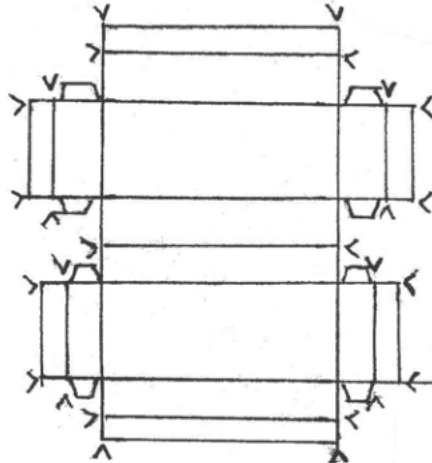


Mailbox
handle
curl

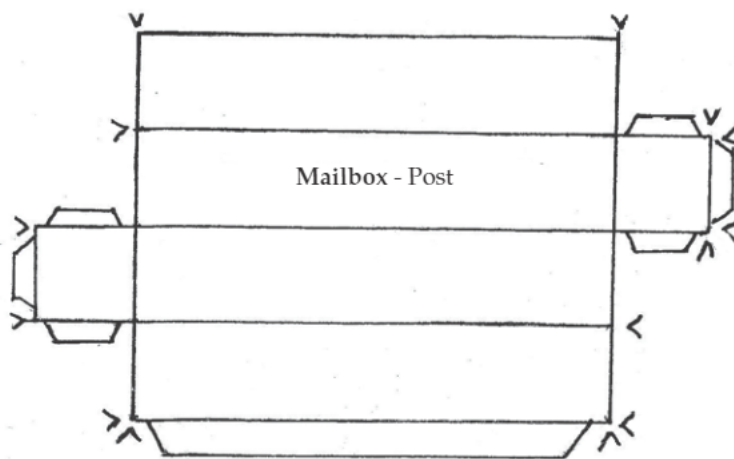
Mailbox - flag



Tool Box - 1/2" scale



Tool Box
Latch pieces



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Wooden Bench

Enlarge or decrease the patterns for the bench shown on the pattern pages. Cut out from the following thicknesses of wood:

Wood sizes to cut for bench:

1/4" Scale

1/16" strip wood
Shaped ends 9/32" x 11/32"
Top 9/16" x 11/32"
Brace 3/32" x 11/32"

1/2" Scale

3/32" strip wood
Shaped ends 9/16" x 11/32"
Top 11/16" x 1-1/8"
Brace 3/16" x 11/16"

1" Scale

3/16" strip wood
Shaped ends 1-1/8" x 1-3/8"
Top 1-3/8" x 2-5/16"
Brace 3/8" x 1-3/8"

Sand, distress, and stain the wood as desired.

Mark the center on inside top edges of legs. Put glue on the ends of the brace. Put the brace upside down on the table. Center the brace between the legs. Hold together until the glue sets up.

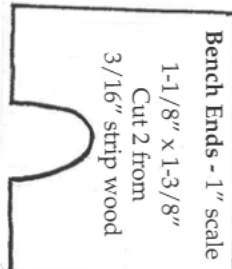
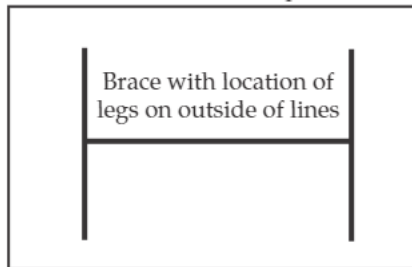
Then put the seat upside down on the table, mark center end to end. Put glue on the leg/brace unit and center it on the line on the seat bottom. Let dry. Paint if desired.



Bench Top - 1" scale

1-3/8" x 2-5/16"

Cut 1 from 3/16" strip wood



Other Suggestions for Tote Bag Items

- American Flag
- Regional Flag
- Decorative Flag
- Camera
- Weathervane
- Map of Mythical Region
- Book with Souvenir cover on it
- Stepping Stones
- Beach Towels
- Throw
- Wading Pool (for tired tootsies)
- Beach chair
- Hooks for wall
- Vines for trellis
- Sports equipment
- Small table
- Stool
- Binoculars
- Potted Plant
- Bell

• Badge •

Cut out, add your name, wear to your Over the Hill Retreat.

• Pin •

Over The Hill Retreat Pin: You may order this pin from the NAME office with the order form on page 71 or you can make your own pin from this art work.

Here is the art work to make your own houseparty convention pin. Cut along outside lines. Using white paste of choice, glue picture to card stock. Use strong tape, like packing or electrical, tape the non-locking side of the pin to the back of the cardstock. Wear you pin with pride.

