

F.W. Woolworth 5 & 10



RIVER LEAF MODELS, LLC

Thank you for purchasing the Five & Dime structure kit. Your kit includes everything you need to produce the final assembly. We recommend using “Carpenter’s Glue” available in a number of different brands, including Elmer’s. We also recommend using a steel square for aligning your walls for perpendicularity, although a drafting triangle will also suffice. A sharp X-Acto knife and a sanding tool – either fine sandpaper or a nail file will be suitable.

WARNING – Your kit requires the use of sharp tools. We do not recommend for children under the age of 14. Your kit is laser cut wood and some edges may be sharp. We recommend you use light sand paper to smooth the edges.

Step #1 –Prepare the Walls

On most river Leaf kits, we advise gluing the four walls together before starting painting and detailing. However, Woolworths has all of the major detailing concentrated to the front of the structure and for this reason, we recommend not gluing the front wall to the body of the structure. There is a fair amount of handling work in assembling the front wall and you will find this process goes easier if you build the front wall separately.

Since you will not be assembling the structure until later in the process, you may want to paint the walls first. We achieved excellent results by spraying the walls. Prior to spraying, use some fine sandpaper to lightly remove any texture and run the sandpaper down the edges as well.

Spray light coats. We found three coats will do nicely and the properties of the wood accelerate drying considerably. Use a series of light coats to build up your color. After each coat dries, lightly sand until you have a smooth surface. You should also paint the two one inch deep side walls of the entrance at this time.

The two side walls can be glued to the back wall at this point. Apply Carpenters Glue to the edges of one side wall (B or D). Do not use an excessive amount of glue or the glue will seep out the sides. Apply a thin bead of glue and spread it to a thin coat. You may also opt to apply a bead of glue to the inside surface of the rear wall (C) at the point where the side wall will be adhered.

Repeat this step to glue the opposite side wall.

Carpenters Glue will afford you the time to perfectly align your walls, as there is some “setup” time. To ensure the perpendicularity of the structure, once both sides walls are glued and while the glue is still workable, check how the front wall will fit to the U shaped side wall/back wall/side wall configuration.. Once you have your walls all secured, I recommend letting the glue dry for 24 hours. While the glue is setting, you can use the roof panel as a checking tool to ensure the building corners are perpendicular. You may want to use clamps positioned with the clamping faces on the front and rear of the building to form a tight glued seal.

On structures made of lighter or less sturdy material, it is common practice to run a square brace tucked into each quarter using 1/4" or 3/8" square wood. On River Leaf Models, this is not necessary; however, the option is there to do so if you wish.

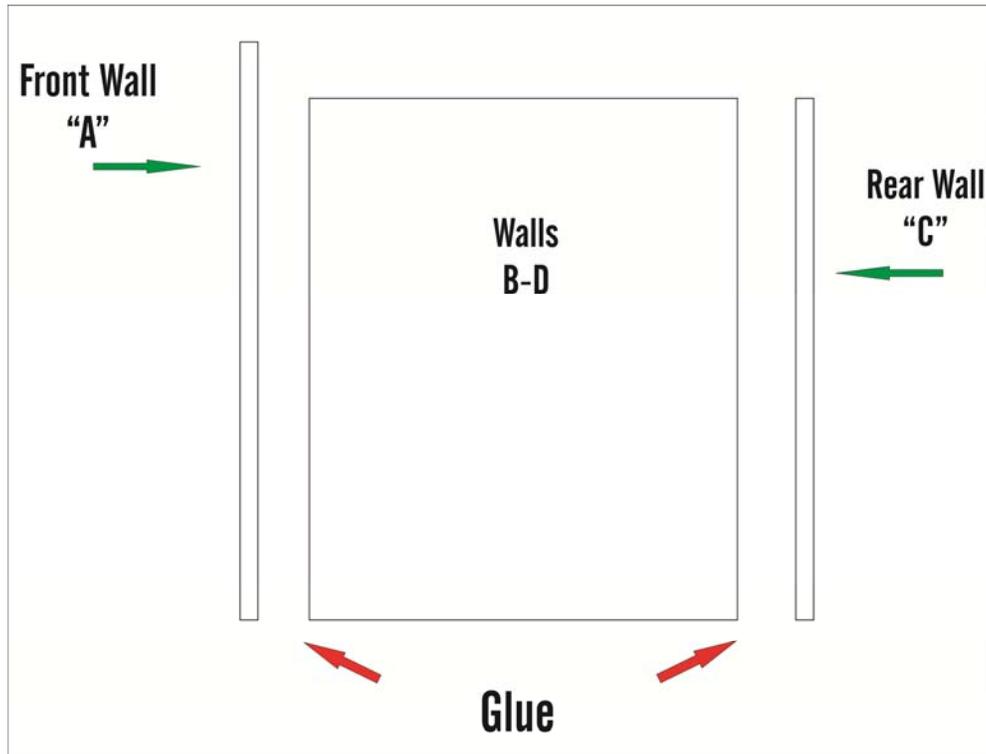


FIGURE 1 – GLUING YOUR STRUCTURE WALLS

Step #2 – Construct the Recessed Front Entrance

The front entrance is recessed for visual interest and consists of four parts – the two 1/4" thick side walls, the etched acrylic glass and the window/door framing.

Start with the two side walls of the entrance. If you have not already painted these in step one, do so before proceeding further. The entrance side walls glue to the inside of the front wall at the center entrance. Apply a light bead of Carpenters glue, spread into a thin coat and glue the wall forming a perpendicular corner. Repeat the process on the opposite side of the entrance and allow these pieces to set up.

While the glue is drying, you may want to paint the front window frame. We recommend using silver paint, but that's your decision. The acrylic windows and doors are one complete panel spanning the entire entrance. The window/door frame is glued to the front face of the acrylic. This combination forms your recessed entrance.

The acrylic front window is laser etched with advertising. You may opt to paint the lettering and this is easily accomplished. Take a small amount of paint and using a brush, apply paint to the etched areas. It is expected paint will spill over on to the flat glass surface, however, this is easily wiped off with a damp rag, while the paint in the etched areas remains.

With all components painted and prepped, you are ready to assemble the entrance by following the steps illustrated in Figure #2 below:

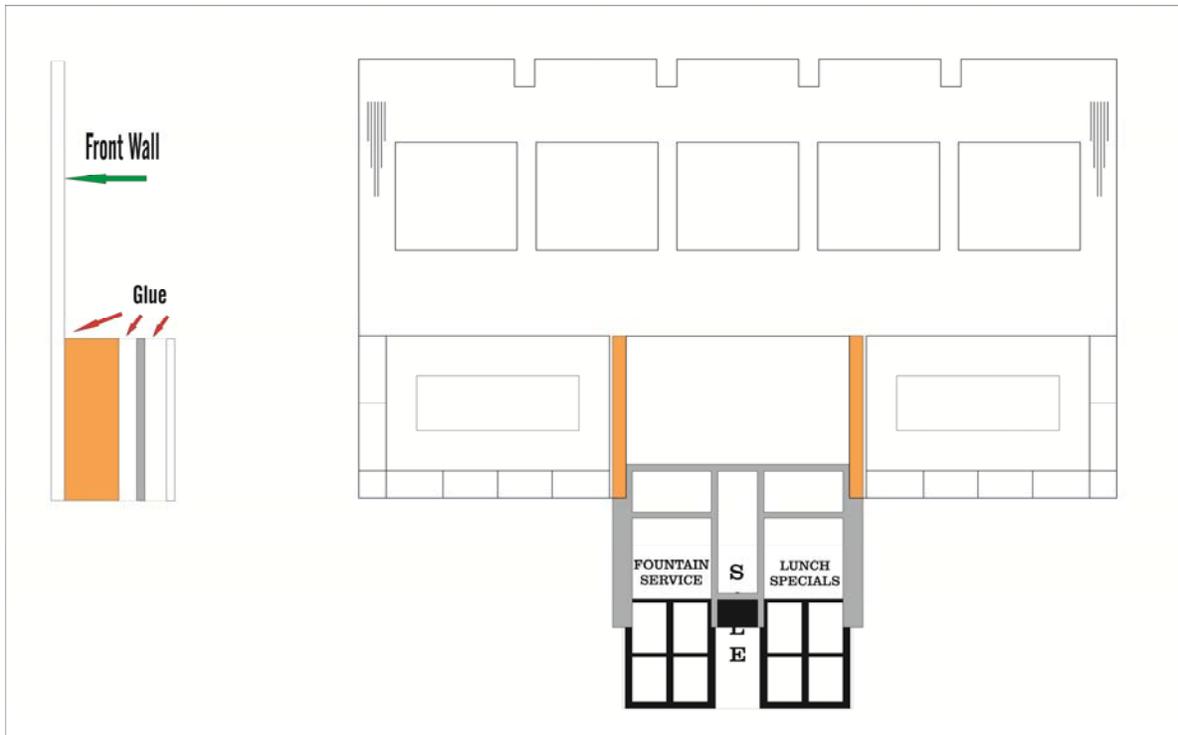


FIGURE 2 – ASSEMBLING THE ENTRANCE

Step #3 – Applying the Front Details

The details of the kit include the top ledges, the top decorative edging, the distinctive store name signage and the trim around the sign. The wood sign should be very lightly sanded prior to painting. Part of the appeal of this distinctive sign is the notable Five and Dime design and color scheme. We recommend painting the base a deep red and allow to dry thoroughly.

The lettering, border and accents are raised enabling painting of the lettering in a gold color. There are a number of way to achieve this. If you have a steady hand and a quality brush, you can paint these raised areas with a brush. Another alternative is to use a “paint marker.” Our favored method is to use a piece of solid wire bent in a “U” shape. This method creates a very smooth painting instrument easily glided along the

top surface of the letters. Dip the edge of the “U” into your paint and gently apply it to the letters.

There are five windows on the second floor and two large display windows at street level. The windows are 3/32” acrylic for a snug fit into the openings. The frames are glued to the top surface of the acrylic in sandwich style.

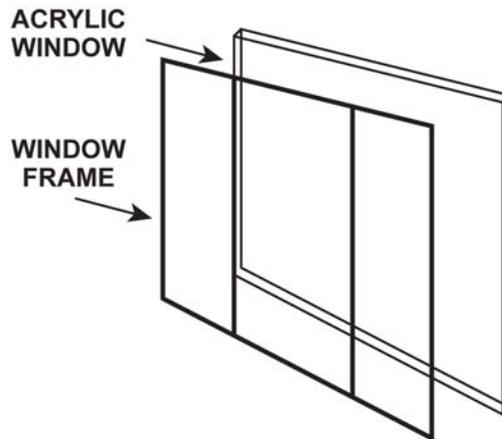


FIGURE #3 – ASSEMBLING THE WINDOWS

The acrylic makes the windows a snug fit. Check each and if too snug, sand to fit. Place the windows flush with the building front. You can add a drop of CA or Super Glue to the corners from the inside. The placement of all details is shown in Figure #4.



FIGURE #4 – FRONT DETAIL PLACEMENT

Step #5 - Roof

I recommend painting the roof black and apply masking tape overlapping the edge. The roof fits snugly in place. You can also glue roof supports to the inside of the walls.

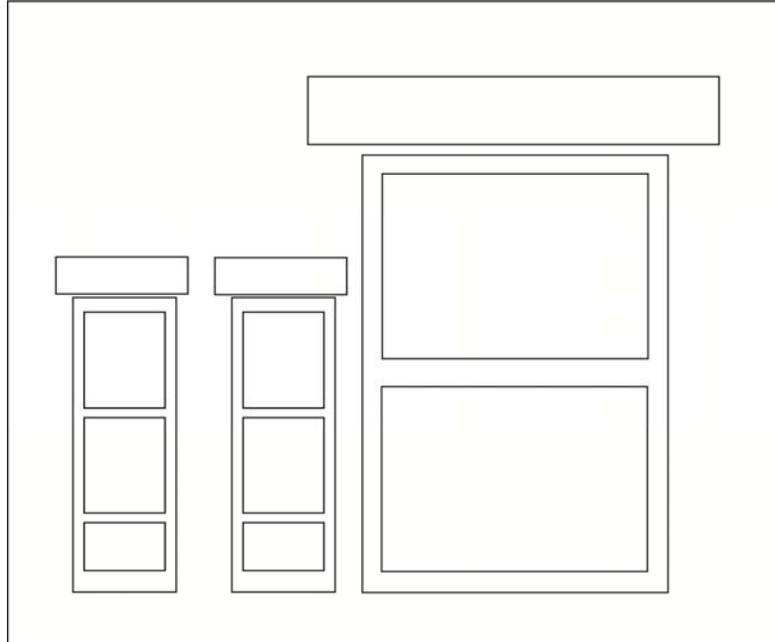


FIGURE #5 – SIDE AND REAR DOORS

Step #6 – Side and Rear Doors

Included in your kit are two side doors and a cargo door. These are intended to be pasted to the outside of your building on the side rear walls wherever you choose.

Congratulations! Your building is complete!

With your building finished, you may opt to further enhance the structure using weathering techniques such as chalk or misting. Keep in mind weather runs from top to bottom and will be concentrated in areas where water may gather and run off. Likewise, you may have weather “splash up” along the base.

If you have questions on construction or suggestions, please contact us by email at riverleafmodels@gmail.com

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