

Little Cities Instructions:

1 Roll out the wallpaper scrap on a firm, (not carpeted,) floor or table.

2 Begin drawing a "map" of your city. Remember that the streets need to be the right size for your small toy cars. Draw the city as if you were a bird, looking down on it, so that you see streets separating the city blocks like the squares in a quilt or a crossword puzzle. You don't need to draw the buildings, because you can make those using your wood scraps and boxes. Draw sidewalks, parking lots, and grassy areas.

3 To make the buildings, stack and glue the boxes and wood blocks together. There are lots of things you can do to make the buildings look real!

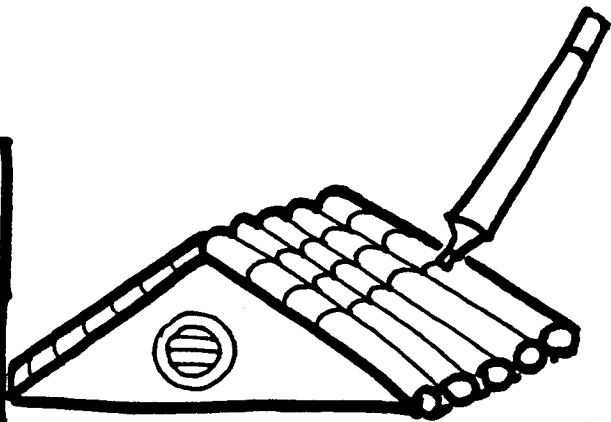
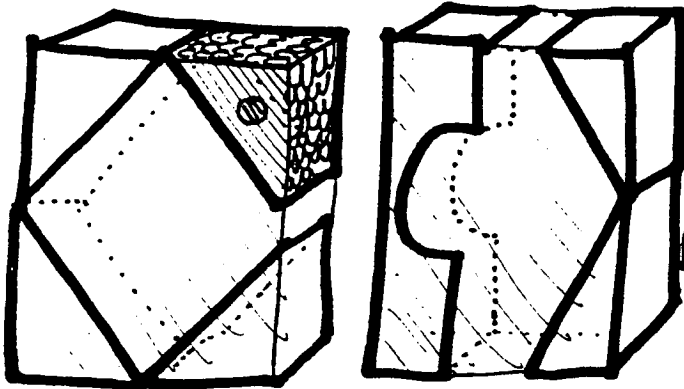
For windows: Paint or draw outside window shapes on the blocks and boxes. Then paint or draw what it looks like on the inside, through your imaginary window. Cut clear, thin plastic "windows" out of produce or bakery boxes and glue them over the window scene.

For doors: Paint or draw them on, or cut out small rectangles of cardboard, wallpaper, or other paper and glue them on.

For rooftops: Use triangular shaped wooden block scraps, or cut off the corner of a cereal or other discarded box as shown. Cover the rooftops in sandpaper to look like real shingles, or draw the shingles on. Brown grocery sack paper or old yellow envelopes also look good as roofs. Glue or tape the box corner to a "building" box or block and cover the front triangles with paper or paint them to match the rest of the building. For flat roofs, smear white glue to the top of a block and sprinkle with loose sand. Tap off excess. A row of coffee stirrers or the inside wavy layer of corrugated cardboard looks like curved Mexican roof tiles, when you paint them and draw stripes.

Other details: Use matchsticks, frozen treat sticks, and straws for planks, poles, and boards of all kinds. Try making a tiny playground! Use twigs, bits of sponge, and lichens or dried deer mosses for trees and bushes. Break up chunks of polystyrene for small hills to add variety to your landscape. Smear glue on them and sprinkle sand like you did for rooftops. When the glue is dry, paint the hills if you want them to look grassy, not sandy!

CEREAL BOXES MAKE ROOFS AND BRIDGES



STRAWS or COFFEE STIRRERS FOR ROOFING TILE