

SECRET GERMAN BASE

**COMPLETE INSTRUCTIONS FOR BUILDING
A SECRET GERMAN BASE USABLE AS A
SETTING FOR WORLD WAR TWO AND PULP
GAMES WITH 28MM MINIATURES**



**Matakishi's
Tea House**

SECRET GERMAN BASE

Accommodation Huts

Although I'm calling this a World War II German hut it can be used for many other things.

Versatile buildings like this are well worth making because you can use them all the time and get more of a return for your invested time.

I made three of these huts at the same time. It's far quicker to do this than make them one after the other.

However, if I'm trying a new technique or I'm unsure about something, I will usually make a single prototype building before stating to mass produce the rest.

If this is your first attempt at something like this I would recommend you make a single building at first.

The first step is to cut out the basic pieces. The hut is made from a hardboard or MDF base and four cork walls.

The two end walls need to be cut diagonally to form the angle of the roof.



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The base should be 150mm x 100mm, the two long walls each measure 130mm x 50mm and the short walls will be 80mm x 70mm at their tallest part but 80mm x 50mm at the sides. Before you cut them out you will need to draw them on your cork tile.

Use an ink pen for this not a ballpoint pen because ballpoint ink will bleed through the paint.

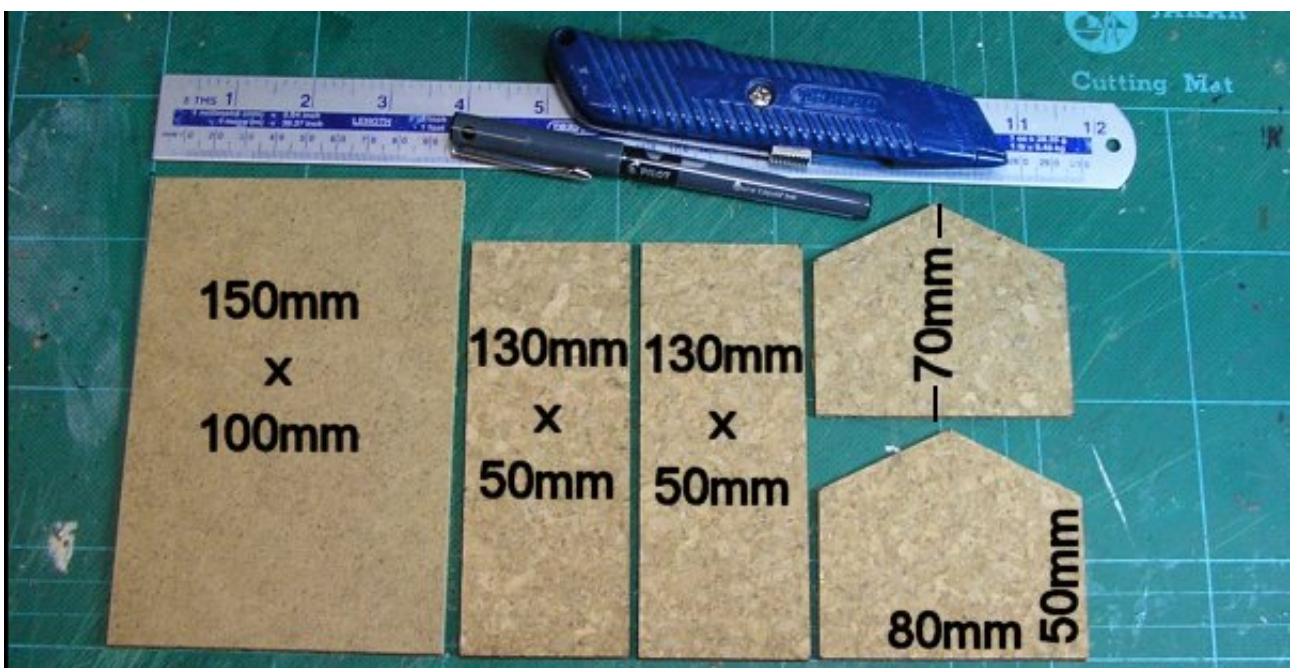
Draw on the smooth side of the cork. You will notice that each cork tile has a smooth side and a slightly rough side; I usually make sure the rough side is the outside of the building because the texture can be dry brushed later during the painting stage.

Marking up on the smooth side ensures that any ink that does bleed through the paint will be hidden inside the finished building.

Once you have marked up all your pieces, cut them out with a heavy duty knife and a metal ruler.

Cork tiles will not blunt your blades as quickly as foamcore but a sharp blade is safer than a blunt one so you must keep an eye on this. If you need more than two or three passes to cut the cork, you need to change your blade.

Don't press too hard, several light passes are safer than trying to cut all the way through in a single go even though a new blade will easily cut the cork in a single pass if you apply a bit of pressure.



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Next you need to cut out the apertures for the windows and door.

Each window aperture is 30mm wide and 20mm high. The door is 20mm wide and 30mm high.

The top of the windows and door should be 10mm down from the top of the walls. For the long walls the windows should start 10mm in from the end and have a 10mm gap between them. The door and the window in the back wall must be placed centrally.

Keep the off-cuts because they are used later.



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The window detail is cut from 6mm welded steel mesh.

You can buy this from pet shops but it comes in large amounts. I usually buy a couple of bird feeders made from it and break them apart to use the wire. This sort of bird feeder only costs one or two pounds.

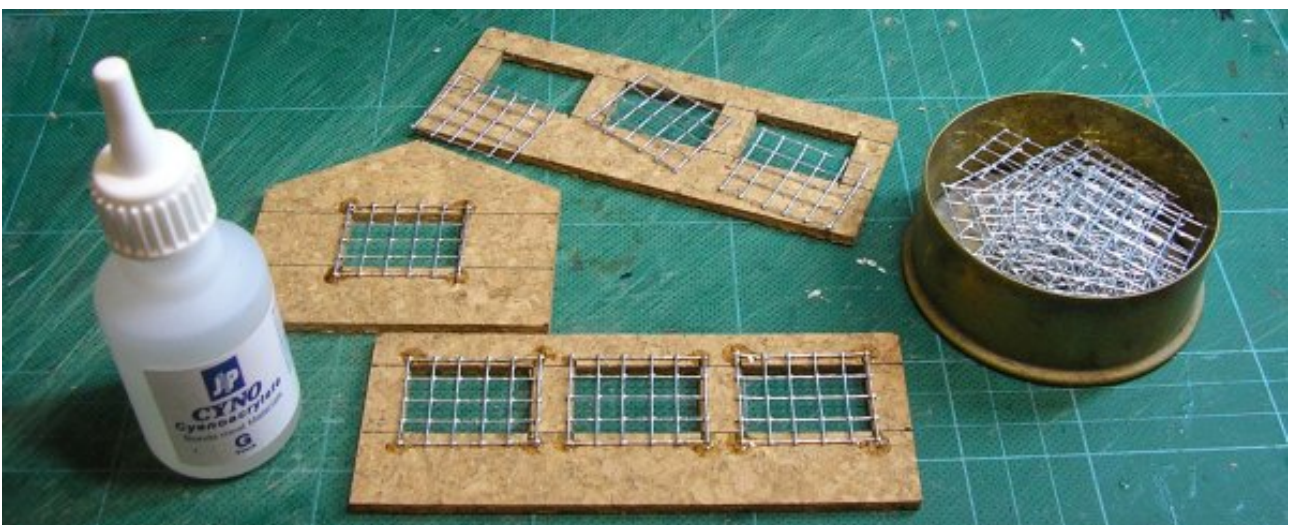
The three huts and the control tower I've made used less than two bird feeder's worth of mesh so it's still very cheap.

Use clippers that cut flat to clip the wire mesh to size.

For each window you will need to cut a rectangle of mesh measuring 4 squares by five squares.



Use a small amount of super glue to stick the wire onto the inside of the windows. A small dab on each corner is enough as it will spread.



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Once all the windows have had their mesh added they will need window sills.

These are made from matchsticks which can be bought from most hobby stores. You will need one for each window and three for the door, a total of ten per hut.

Each matchstick must be 30mm long; measure them and cut them with your heavy duty knife. It is quickest to measure them all first, marking them in pencil, and then do the cutting.

