

Lehigh Valley Models

LVM24 - ROW HOUSES

What is a row house you may ask? Today they are called "Town Houses". It is a series of houses built side by side, each sharing a common partition. The Northeastern part of the United States in particular, has many cities made up of a majority of row homes. Since they take up less room than a single dwelling, they are lower in cost and maintenance. Naturally, a builder would make use of several tricks to keep costs down. By placing the front doors together, one canopy roof suffices; the same thing holds for a common rear porch.

By observing various row homes throughout the Northeastern region, you will find many ways to make this kit different and unique from the original. Doors and windows can be changed to suit and projecting bays with windows can be added to the end of the row. A small business can be established in an end house with the appropriate signs or a large display window. It can be a barber shop, hobby shop, beauty parlor, or even an insurance business....we leave it to your imagination.

Several LVM24 kits can be placed together with a 1/2" alleyway between them if a longer block is needed.

ASSEMBLY TIPS

When assembling the wood lap siding, be sure that the siding overlaps are at the bottom of each row.

Prepare all castings by removing any existing sprues and smoothing with a file. You can remove the lower vertical mullion in some of the window castings to give one row house different style windows or remove both upper and lower mullions for another house.

Use a quick drying cement such as Duco on all assemblies. Elmer's or white glue is best when gluing brick and shingle papers. A sharp X-acto or similar knife (or razor blade) should be used for cutting wood and card parts.

ASSEMBLY

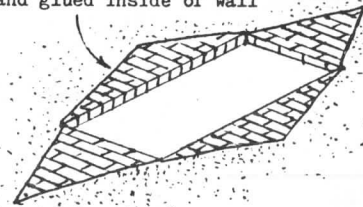
1. Cut out both card stock end walls, and the door and window openings in all wood and card walls. Make several passes with the X-acto knife instead of trying to cut through in one stroke. Check the

size of the window and door openings with castings to be sure of a good fit.

2. Measure 5/16" from the bottom of the front and end walls and draw the foundation line. Paint this portion a concrete color.

3. Using the 4 1/4" x 11" sheet of brick paper, glue it to the card stock front wall over windows and doors, keeping the bottom edge flush with the foundation line 5/16" above the bottom of the front wall. Smooth out any air pockets and wrinkles.

Brick paper folded over and glued inside of wall

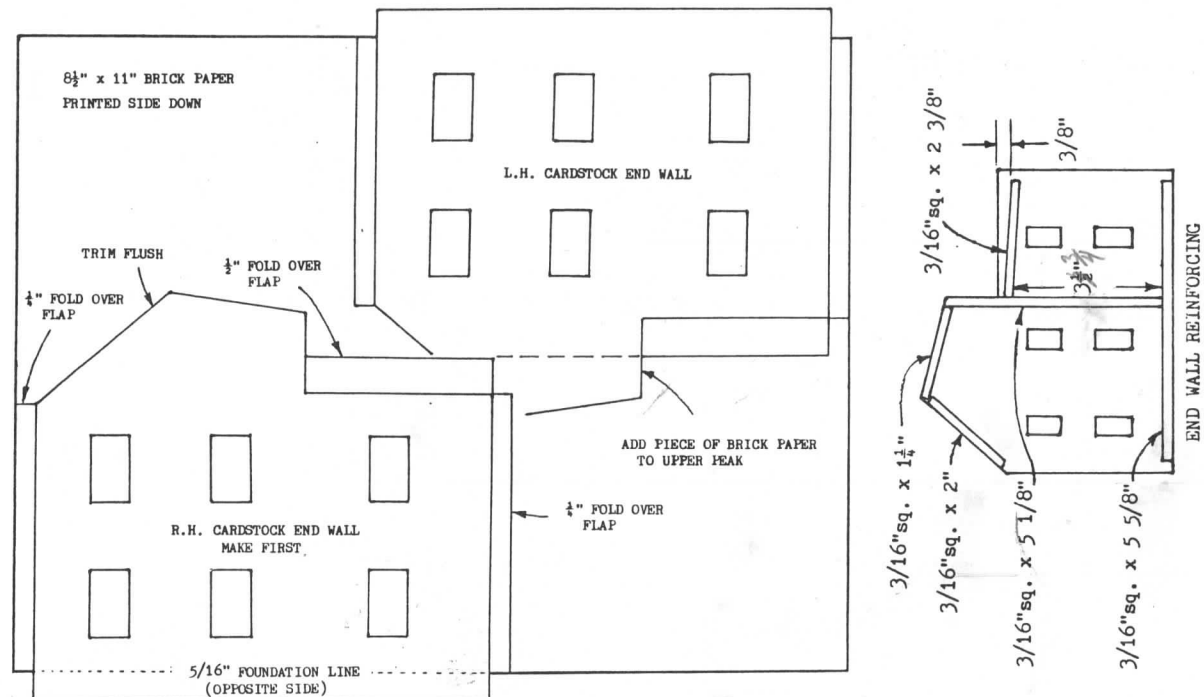


Turn the wall over and cut an "X" in the brick paper from corner to corner of each door and window opening. Fold the resulting triangles of paper inward and glue them to the inside wall. The excess at the top of the wall can now be trimmed flush.

4. Lay one of the card stock end walls on the clear side of the 8 1/2" x 11" brick paper. Be sure the brick runs correctly and its bottom edge is 5/16" above the bottom of the wall on the foundation line. Keep a 1/4" edge of brick paper at the front and back (see drawing) and 1/2" above the rear retaining wall. Trim the excess flush with the peaked roof. Now glue in place. Cut "X"s at the window openings as in step 3 and fold the 1/4" and 1/2" edges around the card stock wall.

5. Next, lay out the opposite end wall in the same manner, being sure you have a right and left wall. You will find there is not enough brick paper to completely cover the entire side. Keep the edge on the foundation line and add a piece to the upper roof peak. Cut this from left over paper. Glue the paper in place and repeat the process in step 4.

Cut a 1/2" strip of scrap brick paper 1" long and glue it to the inside of the end walls, folding a

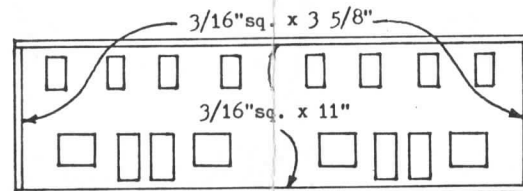


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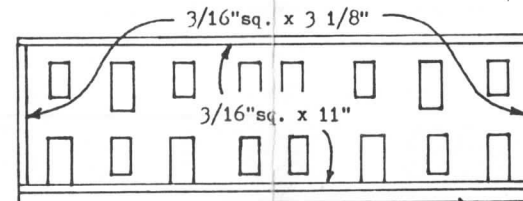
1/16" flap around the edge of the wall between the upper and lower rear roofs.

WALL REINFORCING

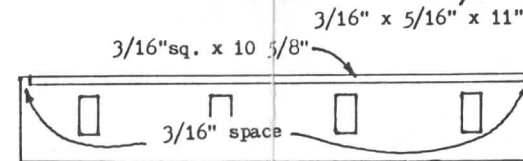
6. Glue 3/16" sq. reinforcing strips and the 3/16" x 5/16" foundation strip to the inside of the card stock and wood walls as shown. Notice that 4 of the corners on the side walls have spaces on each end to accept the front and back wall reinforcing strips. This applies to the back top wall also.



FRONT WALL REINFORCING

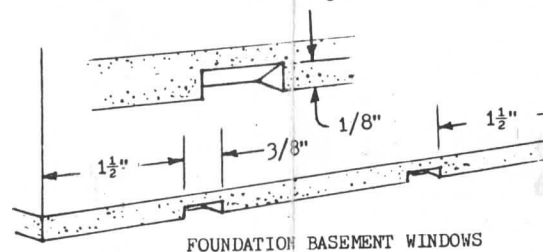


BACK WALL REINFORCING



BACK TOP WALL REINFORCING

7. Measure 1 1/2" in from each end of the end walls and notch out the basement windows. See drawings. Front wall has one basement window for each house located directly beneath the center of the double windows. These notches are painted black.



FOUNDATION BASEMENT WINDOWS

PAINTING

8. Divide the rear wooden walls into four 2 3/4" segments. Draw a line at each division point. These are the four homes in the row. You can paint them all the same color or vary them. Row homes were all painted alike originally, but as time went on, the individual owners usually painted them to suit themselves. Paint consisted of the house color and a trim color. Light grey and dark grey; white and grey, yellow and brown; all white; et.

WINDOWS

While the walls are drying, paint all windows and door castings the necessary colors. When dry, glue them into their respective openings. Be sure the lap siding is correct when gluing the windows in place on the wood walls.

9. After the windows are glued in place, glue the 1" x 10 1/2" clear plastic strips across the upper windows on the inside of the wall. Glue another strip across the lower windows and doors. Do the same to lower rear wall. Then, using the three 9 1/2" strips, cover the side wall windows and the upper four rear windows. Anchor these strips by gluing between the door and window openings.

CURTAINS

10. Next, color the curtains that are printed on the instruction sheet using coloring pencils or a felt tip marker. Use light colors or if you wish,

leave them white. These are cut out and carefully glued over the clear plastic window strips. You can position them by looking through the windows from the outside.

WALL ASSEMBLY

11. Assemble all four walls and check for points where glue should be applied. End walls will overlap the front and rear walls. Glue them in place. The upper rear wall (with four windows) is now glued in place keeping the upper edge flush with the top of the side walls. Be sure the lap siding runs correctly.

BRACING

Glue the 3/16" sq. x 10 5/8" roof peak strip in place. Keep one corner of the strip flush with the roof peak. Glue a 3/16" sq. x 5 9/16" center brace across between the top front and top rear reinforcing strips, equidistant (about 5") from both end walls. Glue the 3/16" sq. x 5 5/8" center brace across the bottom front reinforcing strip and the rear foundation strip in the same manner.

ROOFS

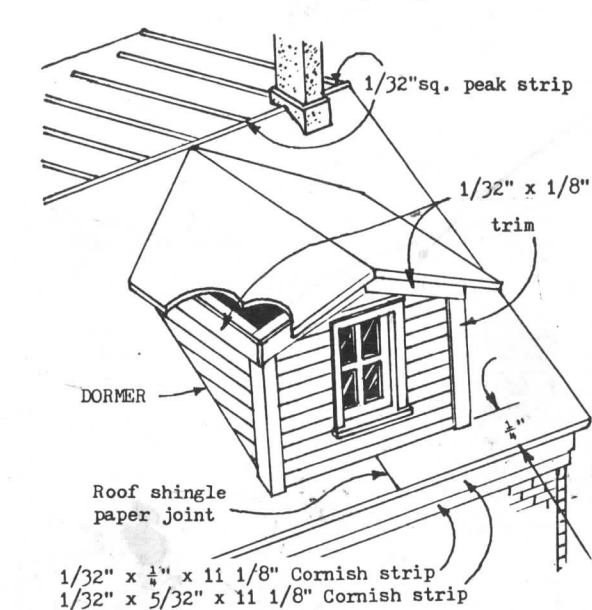
12. Glue the 11" x 3 5/8" card stock roof between the end walls. Its upper edge fits beneath the upper rear wall and it glues to the sloping end wall reinforcements. It will overhang about 1".

Glue the 11 1/4" x 2" card stock rear top roof in place. Divide the overhang over each end wall evenly. There will be a 3/16" overhang to the rear. Glue the 11 1/4" x 2 1/2" card stock front roof in place following the same procedure.

13. Now cut out a 2 1/2" wide piece of shingle paper and glue this to the front roof. Center it. This will leave 1 3/8" on either end to cover with another piece, and the joint will then be practically invisible beneath the end dormers.

DORMERS

14. Cut out the two right and left hand wood dormer sides from the 1 1/8" x 2 3/4" pieces supplied. These are marked with a red "D". Also cut out the dormer fronts and the window openings. Use care

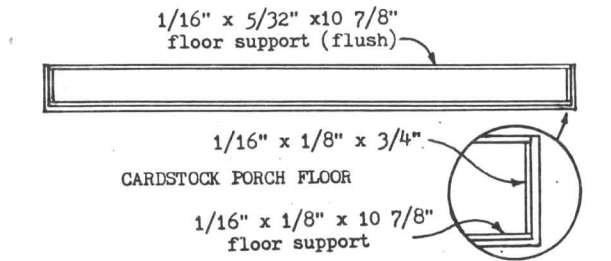


so you do not split the wood. Paint these six pieces the same color as each end row house. Glue the properly painted window castings into the openings and a piece of clear window plastic as was done to the other windows. Add the curtains.

Assemble the front and two sides and glue this unit onto the roof of each end house. The lower front edge should be in line with the brick front directly beneath the roof line and the dormer window should be directly above and centered between the two front second story windows beneath the roof.

Using the 1/32" x 1/8" x 10" strip wood supplied, cut and glue the trim and fascia around the dormer as shown. Then paint the proper trim color.

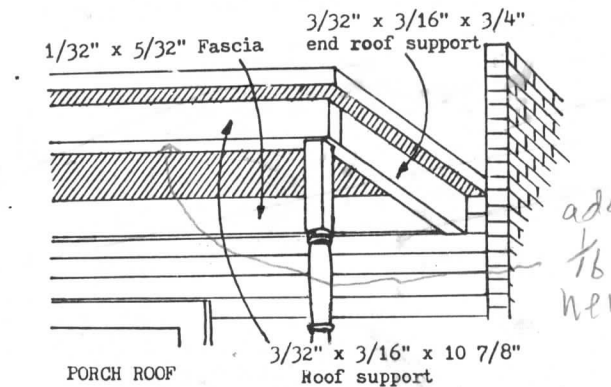
15. Cut out the sloped edges from the two 2" x 2" card stock dormer roof pieces. Make a shallow cut on the dashed center line and fold the roof into a "V". Glue this roof to each dormer keeping the back edge against the roof the dormer rests upon. Cut out shingles and glue them in place. They will run lengthwise.



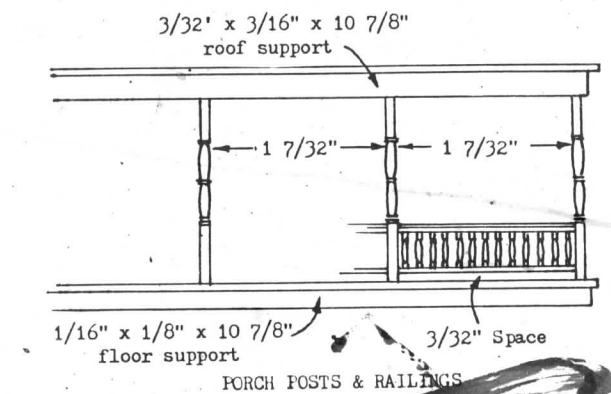
PORCH

16. Glue the 1/16" x 5/32" x 10 7/8" porch floor support to the underside of the 1" x 11" cardstock porch floor, keeping it flush with the edge as shown, centering it. This will leave a 1/16" space on each end. Then glue the 1/16" x 1/8" strips in place as shown. The long strips will overlap the short end supports.

Now glue the 3/32" x 3/16" x 3/4" porch end supports underneath the roof overhang on each end of the porch roof. These butt against the wall and are 1/16" in from the outer edge. Next, glue the 3/32" x 3/16" x 10 7/8" roof support across the outer roof edge, butting its ends against the end roof supports. Cut a 1/32" x 5/32" strip for the fascia which is glued underneath the porch roof, against the lap siding rear wall, and between the end roof supports.



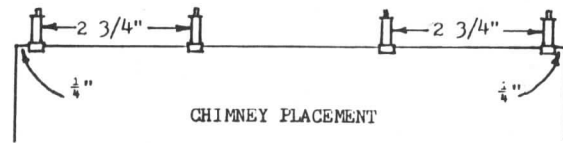
You may want to touch up any painting that must be done at this point. Remember, there are four homes with different paint schemes. The porch floor can be painted various shades of grey for the different homes. When the paint is dry, glue the porch floor assembly against the lap siding rear wall so that the top edge of the porch floor is 2 3/16" above the bottom edge of the foundation. A line drawn across at this point will help keep it level and even. Glue the side which has the 5/32" strip flush with the cardstock edge.



add to here

When all is dry, paint the nine porch posts their proper color and glue them to the floor and roof support as shown. Be sure that the long part of the porch post is at the bottom. Start with the center post which is glued at $\frac{1}{2}$ " and space them at $1\frac{7}{32}$ " intervals, edge to edge. Keep them in the center of the overhead roof support and vertical. Their bottoms should be about $\frac{1}{16}$ " in from the edge of the porch floor.

Cut railings to fit between these posts. Check each railing and fit it to be sure. The piece that is cut off can be fitted between the wall and every other porch post to separate the four units. Take your time on this to get a good job. A $\frac{3}{32}$ " piece of card stock or wood can be used to space the porch railing above the floor. Be sure the heavier part of the railing is on top.



CHIMNEYS

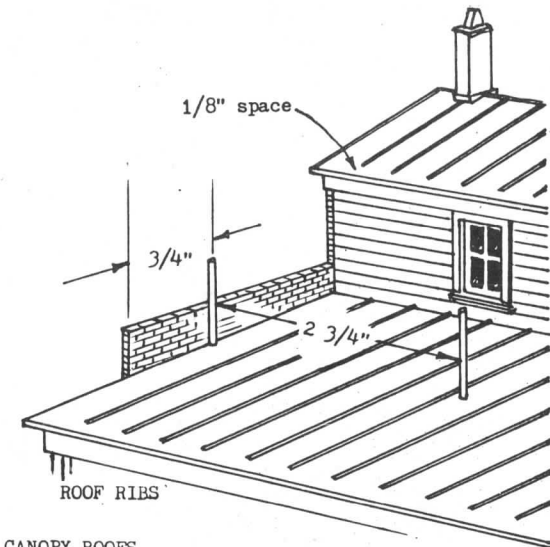
17. File the notch of each chimney casting to fit the upper roof peak. Glue them in place on the roof peak at the intervals shown.

ROOF DETAILS

18. Using the $\frac{1}{32}$ " sq. x $1\frac{1}{4}$ " strip supplied, fit cut, and glue strips along the upper roof peak so you have a continuous strip from one edge of the roof to the other between chimneys, etc. Then, using the $\frac{1}{32}$ " sq. x 2" strips supplied, glue one on each end flush with the roof edge and butting the upper end against the peak rib. Trim $\frac{1}{8}$ " off of the rest and glue them on $\frac{3}{8}$ " centers across the entire roof.

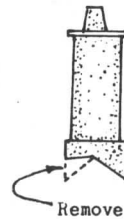
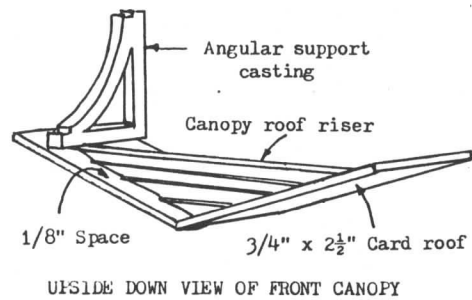
On the lower roof, the $\frac{1}{32}$ " x $3\frac{5}{8}$ " strips are glued on $\frac{3}{8}$ " centers beginning $\frac{3}{8}$ " out from one wall across the entire roof.

19. Drill a $\frac{1}{16}$ " vent pipe hole in the lower roof next to the brick wall as shown. Also drill the other vent pipe holes spaced as shown, in line across the roof. Glue the $\frac{1}{16}$ " dia. x $\frac{7}{8}$ " wood dowel in these holes.



CANOPY ROOFS

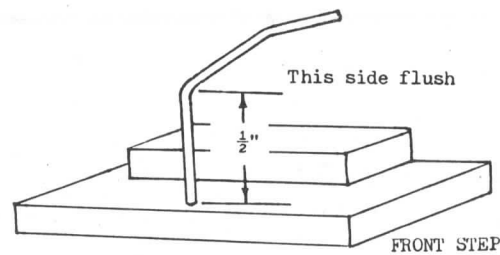
20. Carefully cut out the two canopy roof risers from the lap siding furnished. These are marked with a red "C". Next, make a shallow cut along the dashed line on the $\frac{3}{4}$ " x $2\frac{1}{2}$ " cardstock pieces so they can be bent on an angle to form the front canopy roofs. Glue the canopy roof riser as shown keeping it centered on the roof. See upside down view. You may want to paint the underside of the roof and the riser your proper house color. When dry, center each roof over the twin front doorways and glue the card roof against the brick wall so that each roof eave is $1\frac{3}{4}$ " above the foundation



level. Be sure it is centered over the doors and level. When secured, paint your four angular support castings the proper color, and glue them under the roof eave as shown and against the brick wall. Paint the roof a black color or you can use the left over shingles as desired.

STEPS

21. Glue the $\frac{5}{32}$ " x $\frac{1}{4}$ " x $1\frac{3}{4}$ " top step to the $\frac{5}{32}$ " x $\frac{1}{2}$ " x $2\frac{1}{8}$ " bottom step keeping one side flush. Paint floquil cement color and when dry glue against the front foundation, centered between the twin front doors. Do this for both sets of doors. Using the .040 wire supplied, cut it in half and form front step railings. Drill holes and fasten in place.



22. Glue $\frac{5}{32}$ " x $\frac{1}{4}$ " x $\frac{7}{8}$ " rear top step to the $\frac{5}{32}$ " x $\frac{1}{2}$ " x $\frac{7}{8}$ " bottom step keeping one side flush. Paint and glue against the rear foundation centered beneath each rear doorway.

22. And finally we come to the finishing touches. Glue the $\frac{1}{32}$ " x $\frac{1}{4}$ " x $11\frac{1}{8}$ " front cornish strip to the front brick wall beneath the roof eave. Then glue the $\frac{1}{32}$ " x $\frac{5}{32}$ " x $11\frac{1}{8}$ " strip on top of the $\frac{1}{4}$ " strip. Keep these strips tight up under the upper roof eave.

There are three $\frac{1}{32}$ " x $\frac{5}{32}$ " x $11\frac{1}{8}$ " strips furnished for the fascia beneath the upper back roof and the end wall fascia beneath the upper roof overhang. Cut, fit, and glue these in place. Finally, paint and touch up wherever necessary and your row houses are then complete.

Some modelers will want to make back yards for the individual homes, complete with fences, wash lines, gardens, etc. Of course a radio antenna could be erected on a roof or two, so use your imagination and make your row of homes special.

-S Scale Kits-
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