

# #51035 The Yorkville Townhouse Basic Single Story Kit

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 Step-by-step assembly instructions

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**MDF PARTS:**

- Front Wall, with 2 removable filler pieces for optional door placement or third window (A)
- Center Wall, with two door openings (B)
- Back Wall, with rabbet joints but no openings (C)
- Divider Wall, two pieces, use either one or both (D)
- Floor, with grooves and removable filler piece toward the right at back edge (when grooves are up) (E1)
- Ceiling/Roof, with grooves and removable filler piece toward the left at back edge (when grooves are up) (E2)
- Filler strips, for unused grooves and gaps created by various assembly options

**WHITWOOD PARTS:**

- (all windows/doors include trim and glazing)
- (3) Window
- (2) Interior door, with transom
- Exterior door, with transom
- Archway frame, with transom
- Exterior quoins trim, 8 each, large and small

**GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS**

- Read all the instructions before you begin.
- Choose a work surface that is clean, dry and protected from glue spills; cover with wax paper or a non-stick mat.
- Make sure all parts are in the kit.
- Do a dry fit, make sure everything fits together correctly before permanent assembly.

**SUPPLIES NEEDED:**

- Sharp pencil
- Small T-square (an inexpensive clear plastic one is readily available at craft stores and online)
- Stack of books (or similar) as temporary wall support
- Masking tape
- Wood glue, #1249 Weldbond, or similar white glue (thick/tacky glues not recommended)

## Assembly Instructions

Refer to the parts diagram to identify the pieces. Note that there are no end walls; that area is open for easy access. Also, some parts are extra; needed only with some optional uses.

This kit requires a lot of planning. Some of the decisions to make include: Whether this will be a standalone one-story house, or one level in a taller structure (now or in the future). If part of a multi-story house, which floor this will be. Whether to use interior staircases (some dollhouse makers prefer not to). And whether you will want the Rooftop Terrace. Most of these decisions – and others – must be made before final assembly.

Begin with the floor, Part E1. Position it grooved side up and with the removable piece that is in one long edge away from you. Here is the first decision to make. If this will always be the ground floor of your townhouse you can glue the piece in place before proceeding. If it might become the second or higher story at a later time, place masking tape across the cut lines on the underside to secure it for now. (A townhouse might have the main entry on the second floor with exterior stairs to the front door. This option would need interior stairs to the lower floor, if you use them.)

Put strips of masking tape across the under/back edge of the floor and fit the rabbet joints of Part C, the back wall, in place. Secure the tape, making sure the wall is flush at both ends. (You

may need something such as a stack of books to help support it temporarily.) Draw a line on the floor where the wall meets it.

Fit the center wall (Part B) into its groove, making sure it is flush at both ends (front and back are identical). With a pencil, mark the wall where the floor grooves meet it. These marks must be accurate. Also mark the wall where the floor meets it, on both sides.

Here is the next decision. There are two divider walls (Parts D-1 and D-2, one with a wide opening and one solid). You must use one or the other, but you can choose whether to place it in the left or right position (you can use both if you choose). Once the floor grooves are marked onto the wall you can remove the center wall and set it aside. To keep your options open for now, mark both sides of both divider walls where they fit into the groove.

Fit the front wall (A1) in place, taping as with the back wall and making sure the ends are flush. Support with books if necessary. On the inside, accurately mark the wall where the floor grooves are, as with the center wall. Also mark the floor where the wall meets it.

Here is another decision. If this will be a ground floor below upper stories, where the front door is on the second floor, you

can use the filler piece to turn the door opening into another window (an extra window and trim are provided for this option). If it will always have a door, you still have the option of using the filler on either the left or the right to change the position.

Remove the front wall and, using the T-square, extend the marks up the wall the length of the T-square. The lines must be straight and accurate. Flip the T-square to the top of the panel to finish the lines.

Repeat for the marks on the center wall.

Put the center and front walls back in place, flush at both ends. Using the floor grooves and the lines you drew, put your chosen divider wall(s) in place and tape securely.

The next decision is whether this assembly will be a stand-alone room box or someday be part of a bigger house. If it will stand alone, you can glue the removable piece into both Parts E. If you will be adding to it in the future, keep the piece(s) taped in place for now.

However, if you are proceeding immediately with the addition of another story or the rooftop terrace – and you plan to use stairs – remove the piece. You will not need it.

Fit Part E2, grooved side down, into place as the ceiling of the room box. The divider walls must fit into the grooves. This is

where the box gets its stability. When everything fits properly, tape securely until ready for final assembly. Check that the pencil lines you drew earlier for the divider wall(s) are accurate and adjust if not, erasing any incorrect lines.

Add pencil lines on the ceiling where it meets the front wall and on the center wall and divider wall(s) where they meet the ceiling. These lines are a guide to where finishing treatments must end to maintain the fit into the grooves.

Small MDF strips are provided to fill the grooves you do not use, including doorway openings. They may be glued in place permanently as soon as you decide which position you will use.

When you are ready to finish and decorate, disassemble the dry fit and finish as desired, being careful to mask off the areas where the panels will join. You may wish to delay installing wallpaper or flooring until after glued assembly, but primer and paint are good options to start with.

On the exterior, a smooth stucco or brick finish is appropriate. Corner trims, called quoins (pronounced “coins”), are provided. Glue a large piece at each lower corner and a small piece, vertically, above it. Repeat, using all the quoins.

## Parts Layout Diagram

