

#52019 Serendipity Shed Kit

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Step-by-step assembly instructions

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MDF PARTS:

Floor (no groove)
 Back wall
 Right wall
 Left wall
 Roof panel (no groove)
 (2) Roof supports
 Awning
 Porch Step

WHITWOOD PARTS:

Front wall
 Door
 (4) Windows
 (4) Awning support brackets
 (2) Filler blocks
 Interior trim for door and windows
 (4) Acrylic glazing (windows)

SUPPLIES NEEDED:

Masking tape
 White glue (such as #1249 Weldbond)
 Gel formula cyanoacrylate glue
 Ruler
 Pencil



GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

- Identify and inspect all parts using the Parts List and Parts Diagram.
- Read the directions completely before beginning the project.
- If possible, have a dedicated work area so that you are not unpacking, repacking, and moving the project from place to place.
- Choose a work surface that is level, clean, dry, and protected from glue spills.
- Do a dry fit, using masking tape to hold parts in place, to make sure everything fits together correctly before assembling permanently.

Assembly Instructions

Tip: Plan the finishes for the interior and exterior at the dry-fit stage, before final/permanent assembly. It is easier to finish the panels as flat surfaces. Disassemble and finish as desired, then reassemble using glue.

The Serendipity Shed is smooth MDF with whitewood components and trim.

Separate the parts and set the smaller whitewood pieces aside. The front windows and door may already be in place in the front wall; remove them and set them aside. Note: keep this pair of windows separate from the other pair, they are not quite the same.

Structure Assembly:

1. Identify the MDF parts. Set the roof aside and position the wall pieces with the grooves facing up. Fit the floor into the back wall groove; fit a side wall groove onto the floor and square the corner. Secure with masking tape, then fit the second side wall and tape it. Fit the front wall in place and tape securely.

2. Mark the center point of both long sides of the roof (7") and draw a line to connect them. Draw a line parallel to one long edge, ½" from the edge. Note: this dimension will position the front roof overhang as shown; you may choose a different measurement for a different look at the final assembly.
3. Mark the center point of the front wall; it should be at 6½" but your wall may vary slightly. The front wall should be straight but, due to the effects of different climate conditions, may have bowed slightly. This is not a defect. Check that it is straight by using a straightedge between the front edges of the side walls. If necessary, use masking tape stretched across to the back wall to pull the front wall into position. Do not obscure the center mark. (This correction is only necessary at this step.)
4. Put the structure upside down on the roof panel, aligning the center marks and matching the front wall to the line on the roof. Be sure the sides are straight, and carefully draw a pencil line on the roof inside the structure, all the way around. Turn the structure right-side up and set it aside.

5. The roof supports go flat side down along the side lines and between the front and back lines. These pieces are identical, and the same top and bottom. The angles at the ends should slope away from the front. In dry fit, use masking tape only on the interior edges of the support and at the front. Set the roof in place on the structure.
 6. Adjust the supports if necessary for a good fit (the tape may interfere; reposition as necessary). You can glue the roof supports in place at this step if you like this amount of overhang. To get a different look, move the supports forward or back along the side lines; glue them in place where you prefer.
- Do not glue the roof to the structure. It is designed to remain removable.
7. The awning roof is an optional feature and may be installed up near the main roof or lower, just above the door. For the higher installation, the two filler blocks should be placed in the open panel above the door to provide mounting points for two of the four awning roof support brackets. The filler blocks are not needed for the lower position, but may be used as a decorative element if desired. Mount the brackets' shorter legs to the wall so that the longer legs support the awning roof. (Note: If you plan the door to open outward, the lower position will prevent it from opening fully.)
 8. Windows and trim: Examine the windows carefully before installing. Because they go into walls made of different materials, they are not the same thickness. The two thinner windows go into the side/MDF walls. The two thicker units go into the front/whitewood wall. If they are not in the correct thickness of wall, the trim will not fit correctly. The trim can be installed when you finish the interior, but it may be helpful to mark the two thicker windows as "front"

to avoid confusion later. The acrylic glazing pieces fit into the window's recess. Remove the protective film and put very tiny dots of gel formula cyanoacrylate (Super Glue) in the corners of the wood frame. Hold while the glue sets, about a minute. (Do not install glazing before painting/staining the window.)

9. Door unit: If the door unit is installed from the front, the doors will open inward. Alternatively, you may install it from the inside (and trim on the outside) so that the doors open out. (You can turn the doors around within the door frame to keep the correct appearance of the center stile. See the footnote for details.)

Place the (optional) step in front of the door. Your dry fit is complete.

Footnote:

To turn the doors around within the frame, put masking tape across the seam between the doors, front and back, to keep them together. Use a thin blade, such as a palette knife or ruler edge, to pry up the two small brass nails at the bottom of the doorframe. Use small pliers or a hemostat to pull them completely out. Do not lose them. Tip the joined doors out at the bottom and slip them off of the hinging pins at the top. Flip the doors over and reverse the steps to reinstall the door. (Both hinging pins are likely to stay in the frame but if one comes out with the door, just use the pliers to put it back in the frame.)

For easiest painting, remove the doors from the frame even if you don't plan to reverse them. Remove any tape and carefully slide the acrylic glazing panels upward, they will push a small filler piece out of the top of the door so you can remove the acrylic. Set the filler pieces aside but do not paint them. Use only very thin coats of paint; too much can cause the door to bind and not operate properly.