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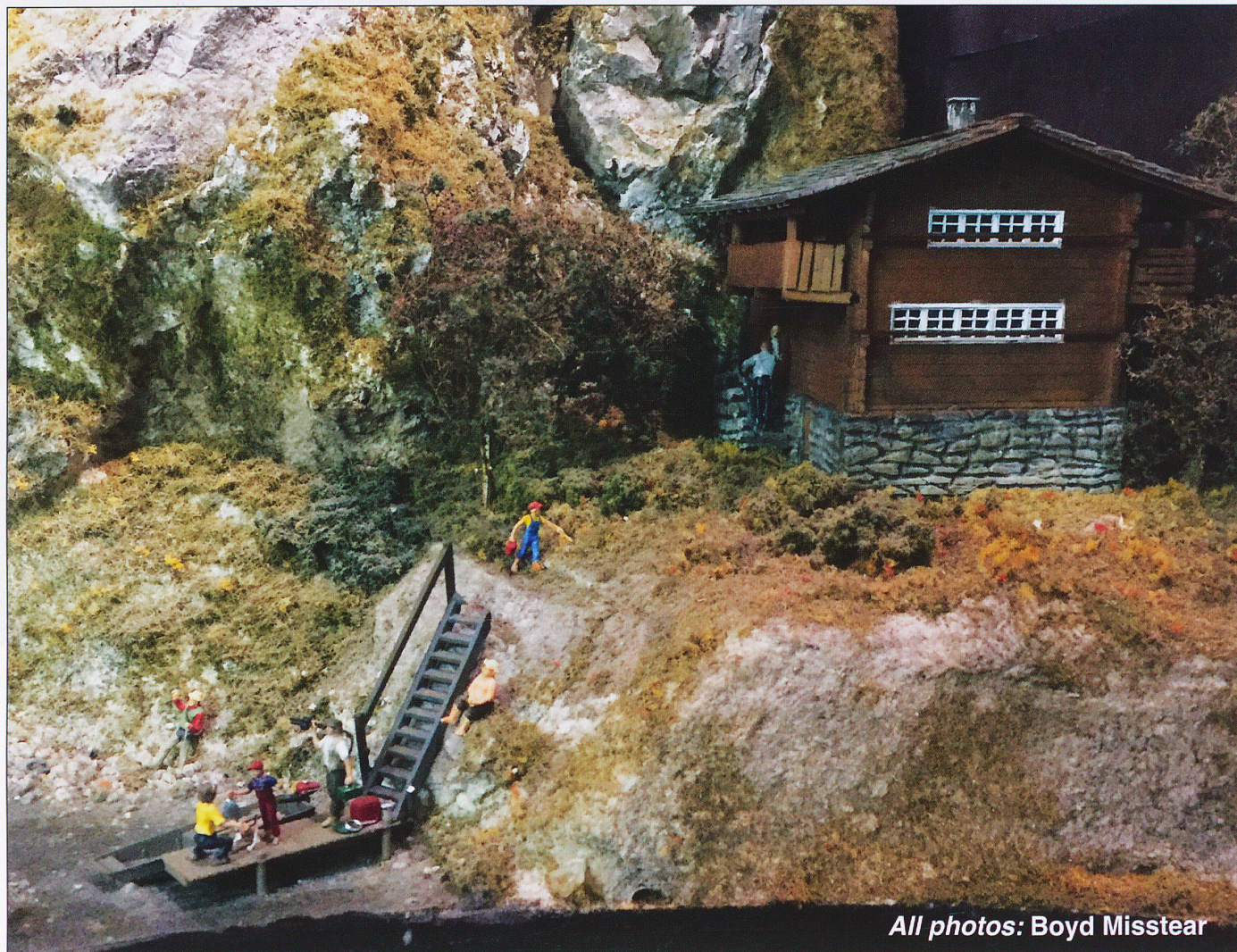
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Walliser Huis 'Blatten'

Boyd Misstear tackles this resin HO-scale model in six steps.



All photos: Boyd Misstear

6. And finally, position the finished model on your diorama or layout. Add 'ambience' to bring to life...!

Exiting from Goppenstein station, travelling eastwards up the scenic Lonza river valley through Alpigen, Ferden and Kippel one reaches the alpine enclave of Blatten in the northern reaches of Canton Valais close to the Canton Bern southern boundary. It is here I understand this Tilly resin model (No. 87019) resembles a wooden homestead structures like those found in other villages. The kit is available online from www.tillymodels.nl and comes with simple instructions in clear English on both sides of an A4 sheet.

Once the resin castings have been removed, for the most part the pieces fit snugly. However, it is important to check and only assemble on a level surface to avoid imperfections causing misalignment when later adding the roof. I chose to leave some of the doors ajar and so installed false flooring by cutting to size black 3/16" (5mm) foam board (not supplied), to act as a visual block and surface upon which to mount a couple of figures.

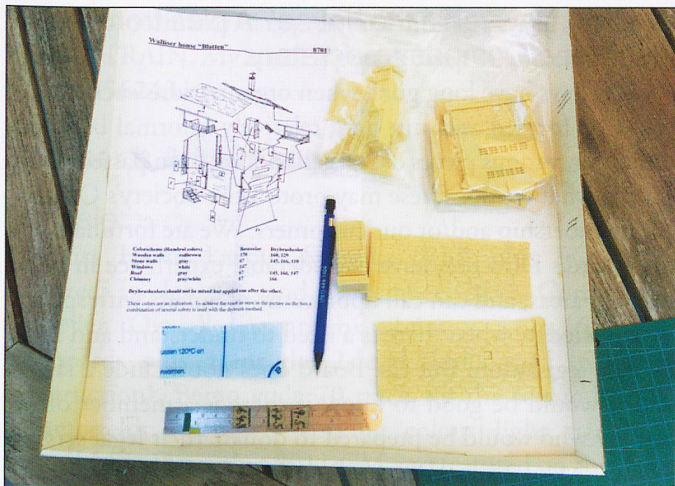
Suggested painting colours are provided along with helpful explanations for "Dry-brush" and "Wash" techniques.

Six suggestions for this multipart kit!



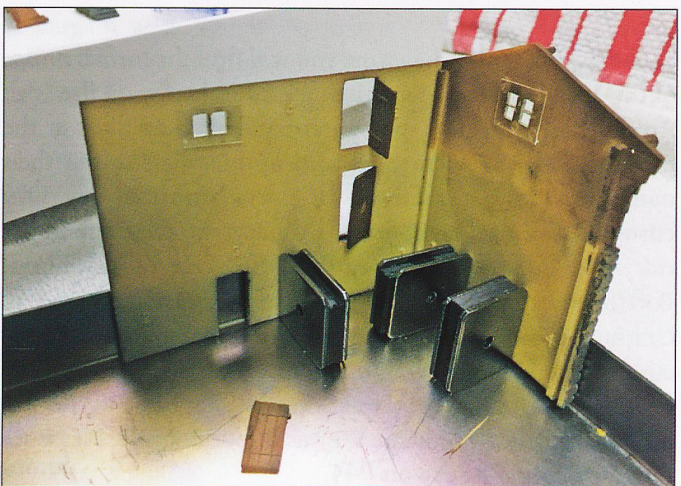
1. Obtain Tilly Walliser Huis 'Blatten.'

1. Having familiarized oneself, an "X-Acto" saw blade (or equivalent) in addition to a sharp knife blade, is very useful. The saw blade cuts through the resin much more easily and faster than scoring the resin and 'snapping' off the casting blocks.



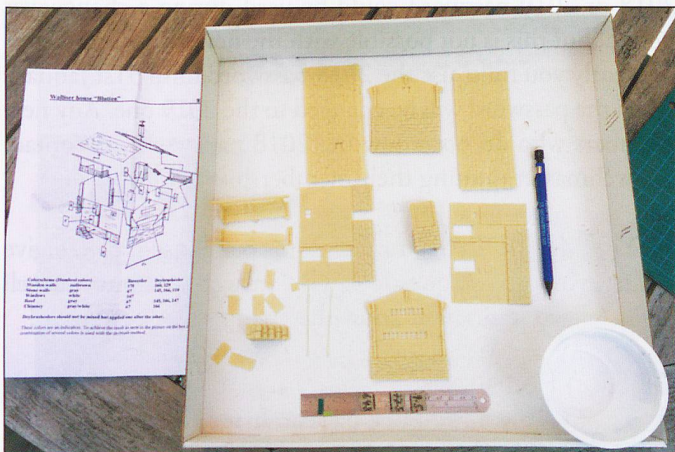
2. Familiarize with parts.

2. Once the casting blocks have been removed, wash all parts in dishwasher soapy water to remove any residue from the casting process and one's finger grease. This will help paint adhere to the resin. Allow to dry. Dry fit parts to check size



5. Assemble on a flat surface.

5. Glue together using a superglue - like medium gap filling Cyanoacrylate adhesive CA+, making certain to have de-bonder available WITHIN REACH, just in case you get stuck to your work desk or worse! Remember, superglue was developed for surgeons to bond skin, although these days it has many industrial, household as well as medical uses! Apply final paint and weathering "touch-ups". I chose not to add vegetation up the side of the building or window box flowers—this can be done if you wish by using a 'blob' of white glue at the building base and other locations, then either sprinkle on ground foam colour mix of choice, shaking off surplus or by using ready-made flower clumps available from a number of manufacturers through hobby and craft stores. Allow to dry.



3. Remove casting block remains, wash, dry.

3. When happy with fit, separate. Generally, I find it preferable to paint and weather before assembling.



4. Mask and paint.

4. Choose oil based paints to match your intended colour scheme for the first layer. I kept pretty close to the recommended colours

Ingredients

Tilly Models 87019 – Walliser huis 'Blatten'.

Superglue – and de-bonder.

Oil paints of choice – I chose Tamiya spray paint range.

Water based paints of choice – for dry brushing on top the dry oil paint to highlight the features.

Modelling putty is suggested to fill cavities – although I didn't find a need for it!

White glue and scenic material if applying vegetation 3/16th (5mm) black foam board (optional).

Suitable Modelling Tools

Sharp knife + blade(s).

X-ACTO saw tooth blade(s).

Small paint brushes (various), stirrer and toothpicks.

Fine tweezers (doesn't have to be antistatic for this model).

Flat working surface / Cutting mat / Straight edge!

Small pieces of non-toxic foam wedges (found at beauty counters!) – for dabbing on weathering colours.

Take normal precautions when using tools, glues and paints.

A version of this article originally appeared in *ETE Express*, the quarterly journal of the European Train Enthusiasts of North America. (www.ete.org). 