

Gingerbread Cottage Manual



Tools Needed:

- Cordless Drill (12v or higher)
- #2 Square drive bit
- Hammer
- 6' Step Ladder
- Tape Measure
- Square utility knife with blade & hook blade
- Speed Square



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Gingerbread Cottage Manual



1



To begin construction start with the floor. Lay (2) 4x4 flooring sections side by side. Make sure it is on level area.

2



Make sure the plywood is even before fastening!! If it is not you will have an uneven floor, and it could cause problems later.

3



Screw the sections together. Put two screws in from each side for a total of 4 screws, one towards plywood and one toward the top. Repeat this roughly 8-10 inches apart.

4



This shows that there should be screws from either side. Be sure to screw close to where the corners meet.

5



Continue adding sections till you have the size that you need for your house.

6



Add (3) 4x4 pressure treated runners on the bottom. Screw these into the joists. Once this is done you can turn the floor around and prepare to build on top...

Gingerbread Cottage Manual



7

This shows the optional 4x4 runners. You will need to have 3 in order to have 1 under the center joint. If you use 2 the floor will sag in the center. Note: these are optional, but will aid in moving the building later. IE: you can put a chain over then and use then to slide over the ground or onto a trailer to move to a different location. IF you are adding a deck and rail you MUST add the runners! Otherwise the small door will not clear the deck. Make certain the ground is level where the floor sets or you may have problems with the panels or the roof.

8



You are ready to begin setting up the walls. Install the first section. Install in alphabetical order according to the layout diagram.

9



Keep even with the edge of the floor as shown. Push siding in against the floor with your foot. fasten with 2 1/2" screws.

10



Fasten the other side of the wall.

11



Install the next section.

12



Be sure to keep the top edge even as shown. Fasten together at the joint.

Gingerbread Cottage Manual



13



Finish with your last section. This is an 8x10 shown. Refer to the layout diagram for your size.

14



Keep the top even and fasten at the joint and at the bottom plate into the floor.

15



Install the wall on the other side in the same manner.

16



Install the front panel. Again keep even on the top.

17



Fasten together. Make sure the wall is pushed in against the floor.

18



Install block panel above the child door.

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19



Be sure to keep top even with the rest of the wall. Screw together as shown.

20



Install the next panel.

21



Make sure the child door opening measures 20" from the 2x3 to the 2x3 (not doorstep). If this is different adjust it until they are the same. You may have to loosen the outside walls and move them slightly.

22



Install the panel beside the adult door.

23



Fasten corners together.

24



Install the next panel beside the adult door. The measurement between this door frame should be 34". If it is not make the same adjustments as with the child door.

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25



Fasten the gable tops for above the adult door. Note: where the square is to show where it needs to be kept straight. Also note the way the siding is running.

26



Fasten together in the center.

27



Fasten the truss at the top.

28



Fasten the trim together. The top is kept loose during construction so it is easier to match up.

29



Install this on top of the panels beside the door.

30



Make sure it is even by the edge of the door and fasten.

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31



Do the same thing on the other side of the door and fasten.

32



In combination with this, measure in 5 1/2" from the outside edge. The inside wall to the outside edge of the truss should measure 5 1/2".

33



Install (3) 2x3x36" pieces over the top of the door and sides of the joints. This will provide strength for the door. Keep even with the edge of the door.

34



Install 4 screws over joints as shown.

35



Assemble the gable top next. Us the same method as the previous top.

36



Install this on the top of the wall.

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37



Fasten on the inside. Keep even as shown with speed square.

38



Fasten on the inside, be sure to measure 5 1/2" like the other gable top.

39



Install one side of the 2x6 with attached trim. Be sure to use the correct pieces. You should lay the pieces together and match them up with x's and o's. You can lay them upside down to match up.

40



Install other side of 2x6.

41



Install the last piece of 2x6. Please note that you should look at the layout diagram for your size playhouse. This is an 8x10 shown.

42



fasten each block underneath. This will provide strength. On the 8x12 you will need to install one of the blocks over the joint.

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43



Put truss angles together. Note: Make sure you match the correct angles together! You can also check to see if you have the correct angle by holding them up to the truss on a gable top.

44



Fasten gusset on the side. keep even at the top points as shown with the speed square. Make sure the gusset does not stick out past the truss or the roofing will not fit.

45



Turn truss to the other side and fasten gusset on the other side. Do this to all the trusses.

46



Install the trusses in the pre marked spots. You may have to pull them to the correct position. This is from not fastening the gussets correctly (a gap in the top peak). It could also be a bowing wall or other factors. If there is a great distance you may have used the wrong angle when fastening.

47



The truss edge will only come to the edge of the 2x6. It will not go over the trim.

48



Fasten the trusses from underneath through the 2x6.

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49



Fasten the first sheet of OSB sheathing. It will start at the edge of the end wall truss. There will be a 1/2" gap between the OSB and 2x2. Fasten only at the bottom for the time being. You can use the black headed screws for this.

50



Stand or otherwise press down the OSB onto the truss. Fasten at the top by the gable edge. This is necessary to form the curve in the roof.

51



Note: the 1/2" gap between the 2x2 and the OSB.

52



Measure over to the truss to get the correct spacing on the top. It should be 2' OC or to the center of the truss. You can check this by measuring the truss spacing on the 2x6. The spacing should match from bottom to the top at the top.

53



Note: the gap in the OSB and the truss. You can press this down with your weight.

54



Once you have pressed it down onto the truss fasten with 2 1/2" screws. Use 3 screws roughly 6" apart. These longer screws will hold more than the 1 1/4" black head screws. Use the longer screws in the middle where there is the most pressure.

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55



Continue with the rest of the roof.

56



Next do the top part of the roof.

57



Finish the top part.

58



Install drip edge only on the bottom edge of the roof.

59



Once you have done this install a starter strip of shingles and continue as shown. Refer to instructions on shingle pack for more detail.

60



Install small piece of siding beneath the child door and the adult door. Keep even with the floor.

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61



Place spacer bar by the edge. This will provide the correct spacing when installing the door.

62



Place the door on the space bar. Fasten using only one screw per hinge. This way if you need to make adjustments you will not have to undo all the screws.

63



Next install the top door piece. Try to center the door between the top trim piece and the bottom door. If both doors work well, install the rest of the screws and remove spacer bar.

64



You are now ready to install 3 door pulls and a turner knob.

65



Fasten spacer bar with screw. This will keep it from sliding while installing the door. After you are done installing the door remove the spacer bar.

66



Now install the top door trim on the adult door.

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67



Install the bottom door with the same instructions as the small door.

68



Install the top section of the door, centering it between the top door trim and the bottom half of the door. Install the latch.

69



Insert the Plexiglas heart window and install the heart window frame.

70



Next, install the gingerbread trim around the side of the windows.

71



Install the top of the window trim and the window box.

72



Install the top of the window trim and the window box.

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73



Install the gingerbread trim on the outside corner of the building. Keep the first part even with the siding.

Next install second part of the outside corner. Keep this even with the edge of the first part of the trim.

Your playhouse is now ready for paint, play, and many years of memories!

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Pictured: 8x12 Gingerbread Cottage with optional chimney

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Thanks Again from the Schlabach family and everyone at Little Cottage Co.