



Victorian Railways - Departmental Residences.

SD023: 2 kits per pack (1 x 2BR RH and 1 x 3 BR LH style elevation).

Thank you for purchasing this kit and I hope you get many hours of enjoyment from it. Chris Pearce (Spirit Design)



One of the variations of a typical Victorian Railways 4 BR DR. Photo Chris Pearce. 05/03/2006

Basic history notes: After WW2 there existed an acute skills and labour shortage within the Victorian Railways and as a consequence, the department sought migrants from overseas to fill the need. With all the people arriving there wasn't enough housing to go around so contracts were let for pre-cut houses to be made in England and over 3284 houses were purchased through the Railways. The SEC (975), Melbourne Harbour Trust (18), State Rivers (300), Commonwealth Govt (500) took up the remaining items from the VR orders. Thirty different plans for 2-3 & 4 bedroom homes have been found with 2-3 basic styles chosen in most cases. Erection of the houses started in August 1950 and the remainder in 1951 with British migrants occupying 321 of 392 of the 1st completed houses. Eventually, houses were erected all over the state and by the 1970's the Railways still controlled all their houses but as time moved on they were sold off, demolished if in a poor state of repairs and 1989 the remaining 584 houses were transferred to the Government Employee Housing Authority who then sold them gradually off to waiting homeowners. Many are still in existence around the state in 2012 well beyond the expected lifespan of 15-20 years initially.

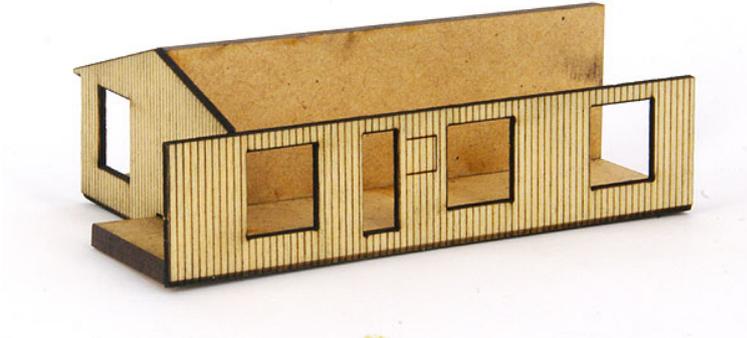
Equipment & Materials: Small flat file, fast-drying wood glue like 'Selleys Exterior PVA', 'Selleys Kwik Grip' water-based, fine line glue applicator (available from Spirit Design) & a glue stick for the printed brickwork paper is required for completion (all recommended: usual disclaimers).

Assembly Instructions: There are a few steps that require close attention and they are highlighted in ***bold and italics!*** All parts should be test fitted before gluing and all tabs and lasered sides very lightly sanded. Parts referred to in the text are marked **(P1)**, **(P2)** etc. There are two houses in this kit of both a 2 & 3 bedroom style. The instructions below cover both.

1. Glue the internal MDF wall **(P2)** to the building MDF base **(P1)** making sure that it is at 90 degrees using the scribed lines to aid placement



2. Glue the end wall with the large cut-out (**P3**) into the large notched section of the MDF base
3. Glue the long wall (**P4**) to the base again making sure that its stays 90 degrees to the base. The small gap above the windows is the edge that will meet the roof later. *The scribed lines along the bottom of the wall are glued to the MDF base.*



4. Glue the other main wall (**P5**) to the remaining structure ensuring that the sides stay parallel and at 90 degrees to the MDF base



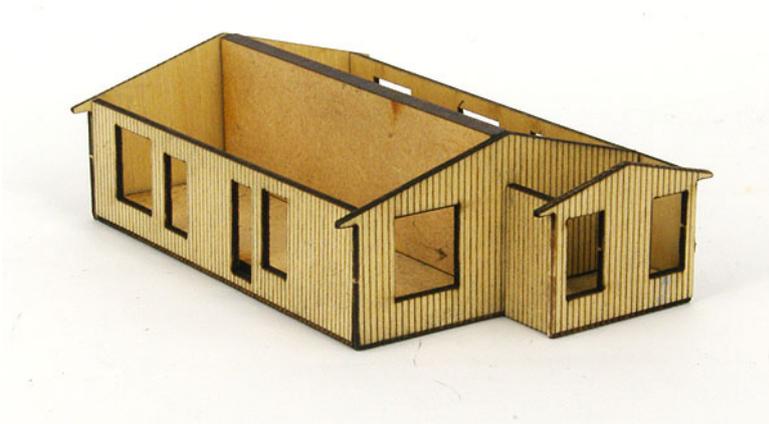
5. Glue the other main end wall (**P6**) to the assembled unit



6. Glue the very small wall (**P7**) to the MDF base so that it's parallel to the large outer wall.



7. Glue the small gable end wall (**P8**) to the small wall and large outer wall ensuring all are in alignment and at 90 degrees



8. Glue the 4mm fuse box (**P9**) to the wall by the front door where there is a scribed outline
9. Glue the 2 doors (**P10**) into the cutouts in the MDF base provided and secure them to the house walls
10. Paint the house the desired colour as per recommendations for your era.
11. Paint all the window frames white. The face that should be painted is the cleaner side that looks less burnt from the lasering process
12. Around each window, the opening run a small bead of glue and gently insert the painted frames (**P11**) into the opening. Keep the frame flat as it only needs to sit flush with the outer surface of the wall faces
13. Glue window glass into position using Selley's Water-based Kwik Grip
14. Decorate the windows with your desired drapes or use the printed ones supplied. Trim the white sections from between the drapes so that you can see into the house
15. Glue the longer roof (**P12**) to the model making sure that it sits square and covers the end walls. The non lasered section of the roof is the ridge capping and this goes towards the roof apex and is glued to the large internal MDF wall
16. Glue the little roof section (**P13**) for the small gable end that has 2 windows again making sure the ridge capping is at the apex
17. Glue the other house roof section (**P14**) into place matching up the ridge caps
18. Glue the styrene ridge capping rod (**P15**) along the apex of the large roof section and the smaller one and trim away any excess
19. Paint the roof either a typical roof red or a pale green for your era. Use other colours that were around if you can find colour photos. Paint the supplied veranda pieces also
20. Cut and glue (Kids glue stick) the provided brick paper to match the MDF piece that is provided for the large chimney (**P16**). Once dry, glue this between the 2 small windows that are on the small end of the wall room. With a 'Texta' weather the top of the chimney with black to simulate the soot and smoke. If the chimney won't sit flush with the end wall, file the back part of the roof the width of the chimney
21. **(2-bedroom house smaller one)** glue (**P16**) against the wall and into the space provided via the notch in the roof (**P14**).
22. Repeat the brick paper for the 2nd smaller chimney (**P17**) and glue in place on the roof 20mm in and 8mm up from the roof edge on the shorter main roof section. This will be inline when looking at the house sideways between the back door and the small window to its right. If you accidentally rub some of the brick paper colourings away from the paper you can touch it up with a Derwent watercolour pencil; no 64 Terracotta
23. **(2-bedroom house smaller one)** glue the 2 porch steps (**P18**) one set together and attach to the small gable wall and front door wall
24. **(2-bedroom house smaller one)** glue the porch side trellis (**P19**) to the small gable wall. See the photo on the last page for positioning
25. **(2-bedroom house smaller one)** glue the porch roof (**P20**) to the small gable roof end and the front door wall so that it is also attached to the trellis glued in step 23. Use a photo of the completed house as a guide
26. **(3-bedroom house larger one)** the porch roofs (**P20**) are glued to the roof opposite the front door where the fuse box is and over the back door. Glue them to the underside of the main roof with corrugations matching
27. (**P21**) is the porch/veranda posts that you cut to length and glue to the porch steps

Below: are shots of the completed 3 bedroom and 2 bedroom SDRs before placing them on a layout.



Painting general: It is far easier to paint a model with a primer beforehand like Tamiya grey to aid the final colour but I will leave it up to the builder to choose whether to or not. In 1951 the suburban colour schemes were: Roofs: brown, grey, green and natural. External: suntan, white, green, grey and cream. Window frames: white: Doors: same as roof colour. Country examples were similar but other colours were applied.

For more information and photos see: www.spiritdesign.com.au

Any alterations, suggestions or queries please contact me.

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