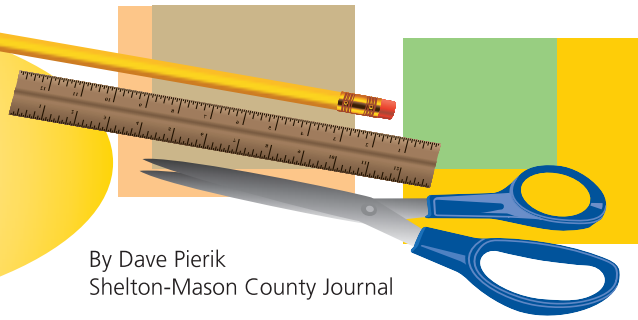


# Grainity Time



By Dave Pierik  
Shelton-Mason County Journal

## Fun With Cardboard Buildings



### You will need:

- \* A corrugated cardboard box
- \* Ruler & pencil, pen or marker
- \* Scissors
- \* Glue
- \* Masking tape
- \* Acrylic paints and
- \* Paintbrush



As always, use caution when working with scissors and other materials such as paint.



The variation above was made with leftover cardboard and paint from the example that follows.



Open the box, pull it apart, cut off all the flaps, and cut it into pieces along all of the folds.



Measure and mark the walls. For this example, each of them is 5.5" wide x 3" tall. You can also cut out any windows or doors at this stage.



Cut along the lines. Lay out the walls on a larger floor piece and hold in place with masking tape.



Use more tape to hold the walls at the corners & to the floor.



Run a bead of glue along all of the seams. Leave the tape right where it is for now. Let it dry.



Flip everything over.



Tape and glue the roof, as you did the walls and floor.



Measure and mark doors, windows and other details as you see fit.



Here, six 1" x 3" strips are marked out. Four of them will add details to the corners of the building, and two will make long windows.



Cut them out.



Fold four of them for the corners.



Put glue on the corners, then clamp them on with masking tape.



You can't see the glue under there in this photo. While you wait for it to dry, move on to the next step.



The front and back doors should be about 1" wide x 1½" tall. For small windows, about 1" square works.



Cut nice and straight. Corrugated cardboard takes a bit of getting used to working with, but it cuts with regular scissors, assembles nicely and is both strong and light. That said, thin cardboard (such as from a shoebox or a cereal box, not used in this example) is another great way to go for details such as doors and windows.



Time to start putting the details together. Shown above are the big side windows.



If you saved the cutouts from the windows, you can cut them in half to make storm shutters.



Storm shutters and a door coming together. It's okay to leave the tape and work over the top.



It's coming together at this point. For a more finished look, some gutters would be nice. You can measure directly along the roofline and cut them very carefully, ¼" width works pretty well.



Take your time when measuring, marking with dots and then connecting them with lines for cutting.



Cut, glue, and place the gutters, then use the masking tape to keep them in place until the glue dries.



For the door handle in this example, a bit of a wooden toothpick was used. Acrylic paints work great, start with a base coat and build up from there.



Pick out the detail using different colors.



Change up the sizes, colors, shapes and details. You can create a little town, great for staging model cars, superhero or fantasy figures, decoration, or anything you like!

