Berwick Infirmary Model Instructions

We hope you enjoy making this model of the front of John Starforth's 1874 Berwick Infirmary.

1. You will need

- A sharp craft knife or scissors, and a scoring tool (or you can use the knife)
- A cutting mat and metal ruler, if using a knife
- Paper glue, preferably on a stick

2. General tips

- Score all the folds before cutting (don't press too hard on the preprinted version as it may cut through the surface layer and delaminate). Most folds are unmarked but should be clear from the tabs, the wall joins, and where the roof sections meet the walls. Test all folds before starting to glue anything in case you forgot to score some.
- Try to only glue one or two tabs at a time where appropriate: make sure they are accurately fixed, wait a minute holding the join, then wait a few more minutes before gluing more tabs. Since there are several independent parts to the model, you can switch between them while you wait.
- Fold up all the base tabs to a 90 degree angle inside, as it will make it easier to line up the parts of the building by standing the model on a surface.
- You should have enough time before the glue dries to make small adjustments by squeezing hard and sliding the tabs, checking for alignment and contact inside the model.
- If you make a mistake with the preprinted version, you can always download and print the model out using 160 gsm card, or you can grab more preprinted cards.
- In some scales, certain tabs – T10, T11 and T19 – are narrow in order to fit on the printed page. You can cut them to the edge of the card if you wish.

3. The Main Block

This is a simple box joined together by tab M5. First glue the roof sections using M2, then glue the box with M5. After both are dry, bend the roof back and apply glue to tabs M1, M3 and M4. Don't bend these tabs too far since we will need them to spring against the roof. Now bend the roof into place and apply it to the tabs, holding it in place for a minute or so. It's easier to do this if you put the block on your work surface.

4. The North Wing

This is the wing on the left side of the main block, and again it's quite a simple box. Join it together with N9 before bending the three roof sections to meet, and gluing these. Don't glue N4 and N10 just yet – they will be used to connect the North Wing to the Main Block.

Don't bend the roof tabs too much as they will need to make a good join. Have a dry run connecting the roof sections before applying glue. Bend the triangular roof section so that it perfectly meets the other two sections.

5. The Tower and South Wing

This is the most complicated bit! The top part folds to form the cuboid Tower, while the bottom forms the South Wing. So you will need to cut along the dotted line marked “cut to corner under window” – cut to the corner above the window nearest T15, where the dotted line ends.

Unlike most folds where the fold comes towards you, the fold between T14 and T15 is bent the other way. This allows the South Wing wall (above T14) to continue parallel with the front of the Tower (above T16).

First, assemble the Tower. Ensure the above-mentioned fold between T14 and T15 bends back cleanly, and carefully fold the Tower into a cuboid and fix it with tab T5.

When that’s dry, bend the South Wing roofs in a similar way to the North Block and glue them. You can bend the Tower back to make room to work.

When dry, this is a tricky part – gluing the South Block roof to the walls and Tower via tabs T8 and T9. Bend the Tower into position and make sure it’s not distorted. Glue T9 onto the position marked with “glue to tab T9”, trying to ensure the tab is horizontal (you can check from below) and at a position that puts the roof at the correct angle. If this goes wrong, separate the tab, e.g. with your knife, and re-glue.

6. Assembling the parts

You can now glue the North Wing to the left of the Main Block, by applying glue to tabs N4 and N10 and to the end blank end wall and letting it dry. Placing it on your work surface will help with alignment.

Glue the South Wing and Tower to the right of the Main Block using T17, T10, and T11, and also the region marked with “glue to main block”. The front of the Tower should be flush with the front of the Main Block. It’ll be easier if you **first glue T17** – at the front – making sure it’s precisely positioned. Leave it to dry, then bend the tower away so you can glue the rest and align at the back.

Allow this to dry before assembling the Tower roof. Again, don’t bend the tabs T1 to T4 too much as they have to make contact with the steep sides of the roof, and your fingers won’t be long enough to force the tabs to touch the roof. Apply glue to tabs T1 to T4 and to the inside of the cone for good measure. Place it on the Tower, making sure it’s level on all sides. Hold for a minute or two until dry.

7. Optional parts: vehicles and base

If you want to assemble the tiny ambulance, we recommend you glue the rear first, letting it dry. Then glue A1, A5 and their mirror-image tabs to the front: similarly for the Land Rover.

You can also make a base for the hospital by printing it or using a second copy of our preprinted sheet with the base on the reverse. This includes another ambulance, a Land Rover model, a group of heritage enthusiasts, and an optional plaque. Trim off the white edges, if any, and glue the base to a piece of thick card or cardboard for best results before gluing the model to it. To ensure contact when gluing the building to the base, bend the tabs to not quite 90 degrees and then apply enough pressure to ensure the building lies flat against the base, for a minute or two.

8. Enjoy!

Why not post a picture of your model on social media? Do share our web site so others can have a go. If you have questions, you can contact us at info@berwick-heritage.co.uk. More information about the Infirmary is available at www.berwick-heritage.co.uk/infirmary.