The Tudors

Learning Objective:
To be able to design, make and evaluate a model of a Tudor house.

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What do you think of when you think of Tudor houses?
Write your ideas below.



Tudor houses were built from wooden frames. The gaps from these wooden frames (which were blackened oak timbers) were filled with wattle and daub. Wattle is sticks that are woven together and daub is a mixture of sand, animal dung and mud. The daub was then painted with a whitewash.



This is what gives Tudor houses their famous ‘black and white’ features.

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It was during the Tudor period that people started to use glass for windows. However, glass was very expensive to produce in big sheets so the window panes were usually very small. It was only the rich who could afford them.

small window panes



jettying

Jettying was used when there wasn't much space to build on the ground floor so people would make their upper floors hang over the ground floor so there was more room upstairs.

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As well as windows, brick was also a new luxury for the rich in Tudor times. The very wealthy built their houses (or palaces) entirely from stone or brick, and the slightly less well-off would have brick on the ground floor and timber framing on the top floors.





very rich!



not so rich!

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How could we make a model of this Tudor house?





What materials would we need?

What would we need to join the materials together?

How could we make it look as authentic as possible?

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Let's read through the next slides showing one suggestion for how you could make a model Tudor house…

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To start with, you will need an empty box, scissors, mod roc and a bowl of water. Mod roc is a fabric mesh covered in plaster which is mouldable when it is wet. Once it dries again, it goes hard.

Cover the whole box with strips of mod roc that have been dipped in water. Try and make the edges as smooth as possible.



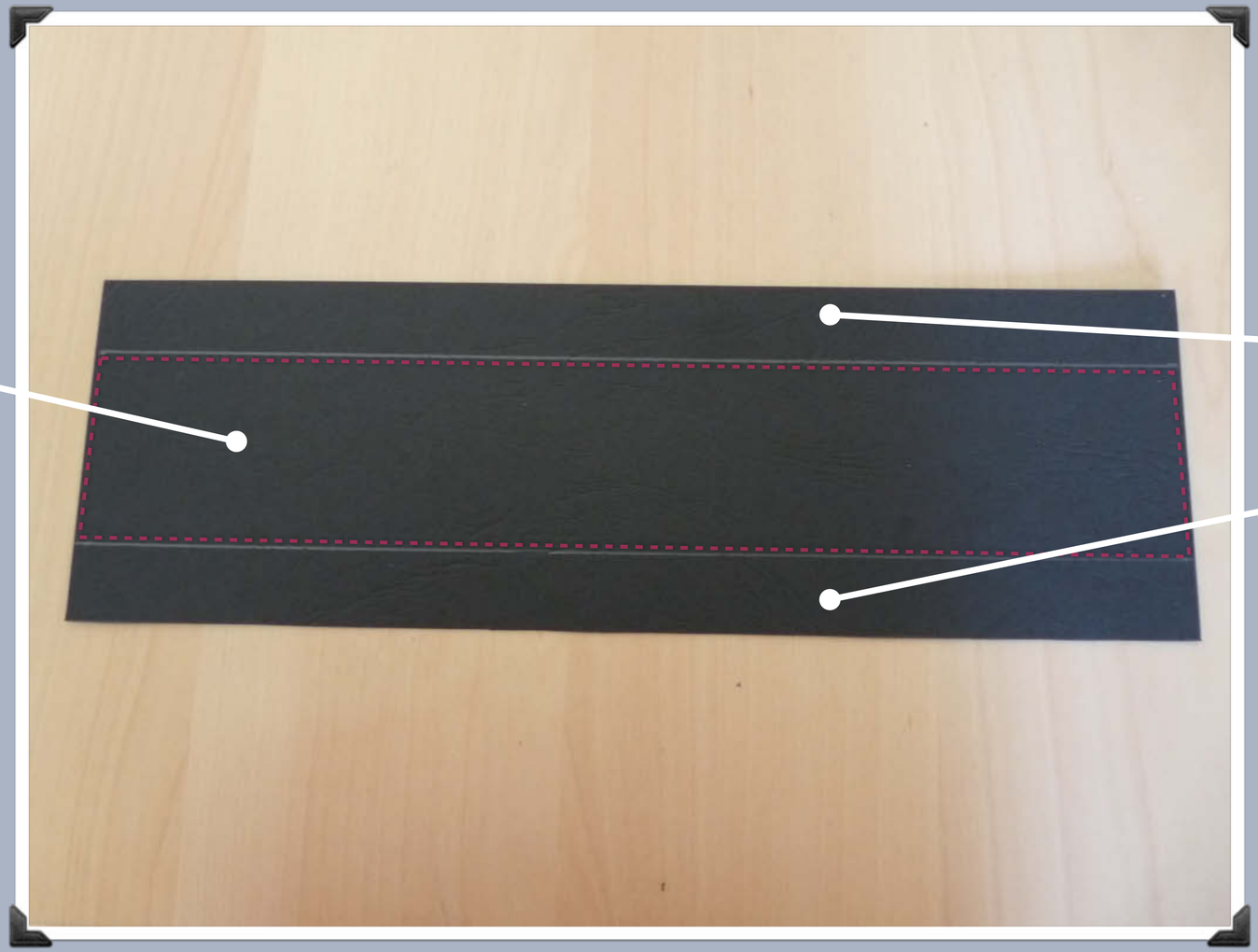


Keep going until you have covered the whole box, then leave it to dry. Using mod roc makes the box much more solid and sturdy once it is dry and gives an authentic texture to the walls of the house.

Measure the top end of the box. You will need to measure the length and the width.

Measure out a piece of card that is the length and width of the top end of the box, but add 2cm either side of the length.

This centre shape is the size of the top face of the box.



2cm have been added either side.

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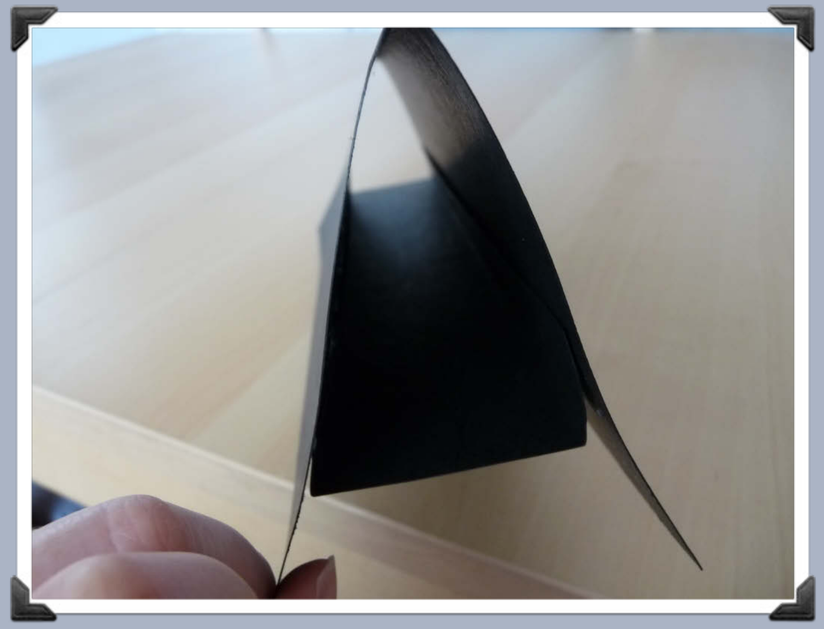
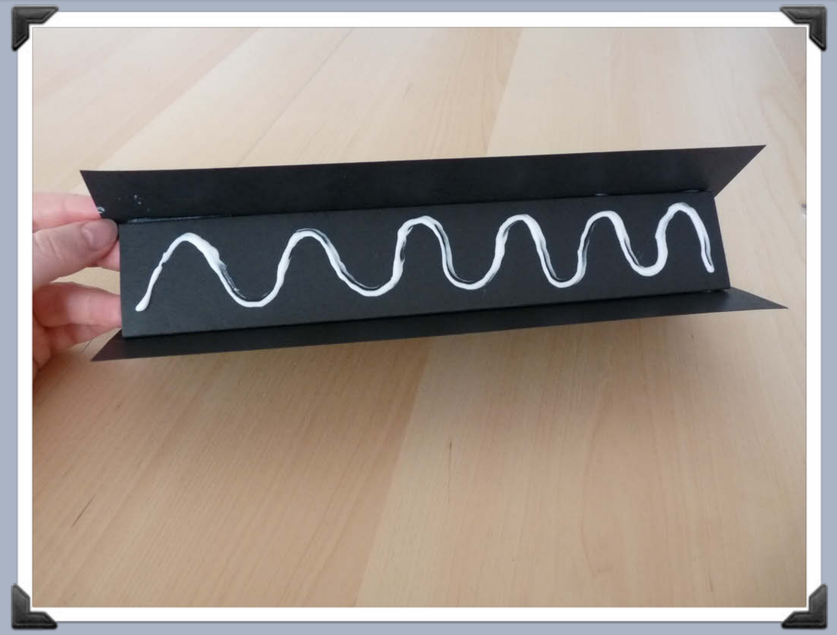


Fold the two flaps up. This part will form the base of the roof but before then, you need to fold another piece of card in half (for this size of box, A4 card is perfect) to form the pointy part of the roof.

Stick the two flaps inside the folded card so that it forms a base. This will enable the roof to sit on the box.



Spread some glue on the underside of the roof base...



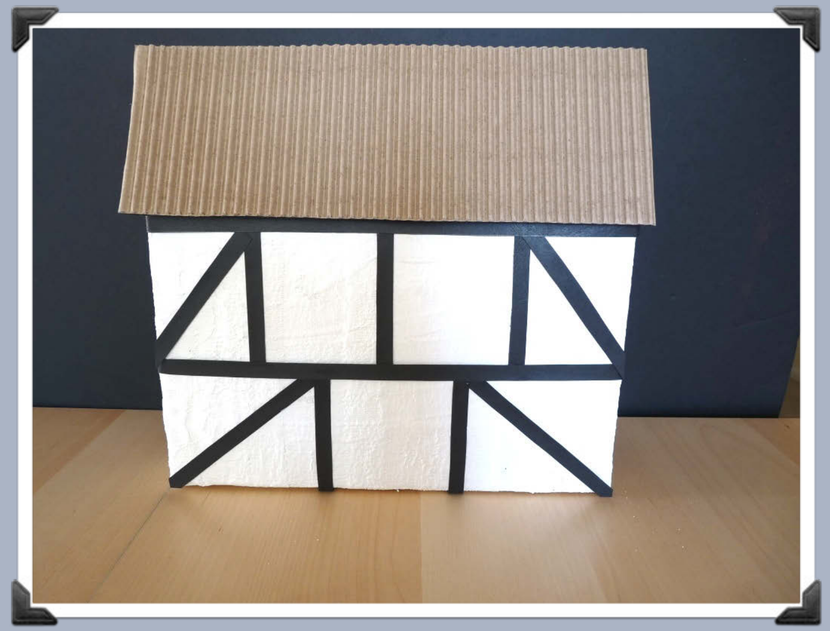
...and then place it on the box.
You now have a basic roof!





Lots of Tudor houses had thatched roofs so to make it look more authentic you can add corrugated card. You could also add painted art straws or even straw.

Cut out strips of black card and start sticking them to the house to form the wooden frame. It might be a good idea to place them all on first before you stick them down so you can check if they look right.





Keep going until you are happy with the beams.

The final step is to add the doors and windows to the house.



You now have a completed model of a Tudor house!

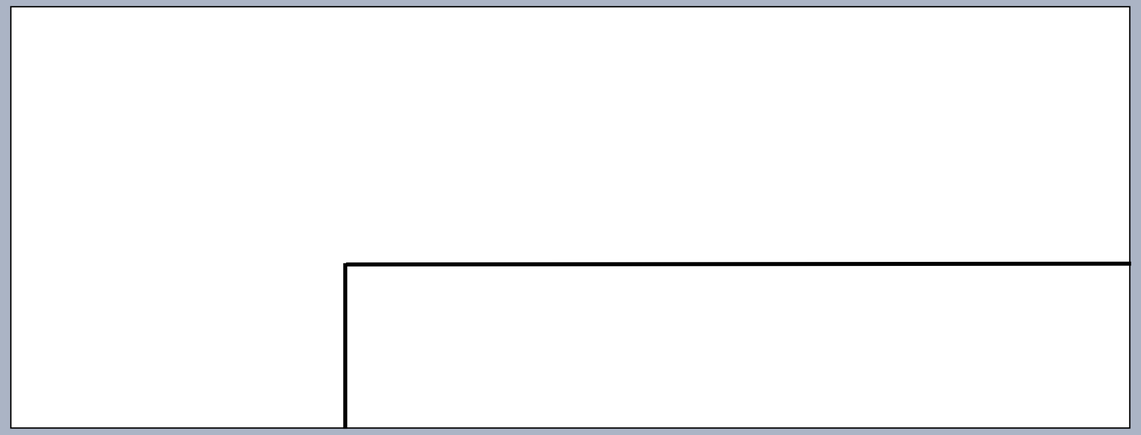


Helpful hints!

Measuring:

You will have to make some accurate measurements when making your Tudor model. If you are measuring a piece of card, it helps to mark out the size you need before you start. If you wanted to mark out a rectangle measuring 25cm by 5cm, use a ruler to measure out where each corner would be and then join them up using a ruler...





This makes sure that the shape will be even.

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Testing:

It is always a good idea to test things out before sticking them down. You could test out the layout of the black wooden beams before you make them permanent by using a bit of blu-tack or simply laying the house flat and testing what it looks like. You can then stick each beam down bit by bit.



Are you ready to design and make your own Tudor house?

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