

Sweetly Small for Spring

1:24th scale Sofa and chairs

Sofa

Materials required:

Base 10mm MDF or wood 6cm x 2.5cm (2 pieces)

Back made of card 10cm x 4.8 cm (it will fold in half)

Covering material of your choice

Cardboard strip 5mm wide and 1mm thick

Cut two strips 16.5 cm long.

A reel of Black insulation tape

Padding optional.

Chairs (two)

Base 10mm MDF or wood 3cm x 2.5 cm x 2

Back made of card 8cm x 2cm (it will fold in half)

Covering material of your choice.

Cardboard strip for arm 5mm wide and 1mm thick.

Cut two strips 16.5cm long. This can be adjusted later.

Step 1

Cover the bases neatly with the material, slightly padding the seat with a thin foam piece if liked. If the material is quite stiff no padding is needed. The front and sides must have a neat finish.

To achieve this fold the material around the base from front to back first. Then fold over the sides in a neat corner tuck with the straight edge of the fold just around the corner on the front and back of base. The reason for this is that the chair leg will cover this fold when it is glued on. The sides have to be smooth and blemish free as well.

Step 2

Cover the back card having about 5mm overlap glued down on the back of it. When the glue is dry fold it in half and put a thin line of tacky glue just in from the edge and a blob or two in the middle and press flat. The reason for keeping the side a little glue free will become apparent later.

Step 3

The Arms

Pull out a length of tape from the roll. If you don't cut it at this stage the weight of the roll will keep things fairly straight.



Lay the card strip onto it as per diagram. Run it between your forefinger and thumb to make sure the back of it is smooth and blemish free. Then fold over the narrow side to it sticks down. Then complete by folding over the remaining side and this should meet at the edge. If not, make sure the narrow side is a bit wider. Remember, nothing is irredeemable. You can still unstick the tape at this stage and do it again.



Cover all the arm strips.

Step 4

Glue the back to the base. Keep the bottom of the back level with bottom of the base. There should be 5mm spaces on either side of the back. Wait until they are perfectly dry.

Step 5

Now the fun part, installing the arms/legs etc. A quick comment about glue. Experiments were carried out with contact glue (not bad but can mark material if not careful), and white really grippy wood glue (comment the same as above.)

The finally choice was Superglue and double sided tape. Just be carefully you don't glue the sofa to your fingers. It would be hard to explain socially!

This is where the second base is used, in case you were wondering. It is used to make sure the folds for the arms/legs are in the right place.

Start off one end of the covered tape on the back of the base as shown. When the glue is dry gently fold the strip upwards and over until it meets the front of the base and the height is about 4 cm from the floor. Glue the strip to the front of the base, covering the fold line at (2). See Fig. 3

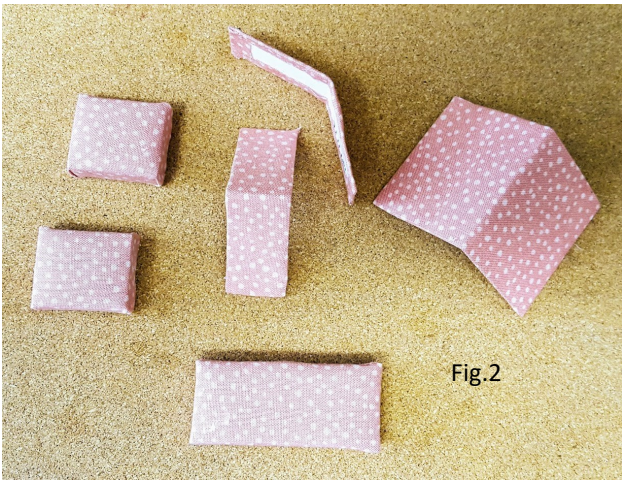


Fig.2

All pieces covered with backs ready to be glued down.

When the second gluing is dry take the spare base and holding it against the bottom of the sofa firmly crease the tape around the corner and along to the back corner and then up toward the top edge of back.

Cut a small oblong of double sided tape and stick it to the back of the start of the tape (1) and press the upward travelling tape to it. This is the absolutely best way of doing this. You don't want to spoil your work with blobs of glue in funny places. Fig. 3

Step 6

Snip off the tape to just below top of the back. Place a few beads of tacky glue inside the crack of the back fold and press the tape into it gently. This will give it a slight inward angle towards the top of the back. All good! Hold it with your fingers until the glue dries. I wander around at this stage, with fingers gently but firmly holding the side into place and admire my other houses. Each to their own!

When both sides are completed, slide the spare base out and use on your chairs. This way they all end up the same height.

Fig. 5 Shows the arms glued in place before the sides are glued to the back and trimmed.

Once you have done the sofa, the chairs are easier to do.

I hope you have enjoyed this project. Jill

This is the work of Photographer, Miniaturist, artist and writer, Jill E Fraser, Martinborough, New Zealand.

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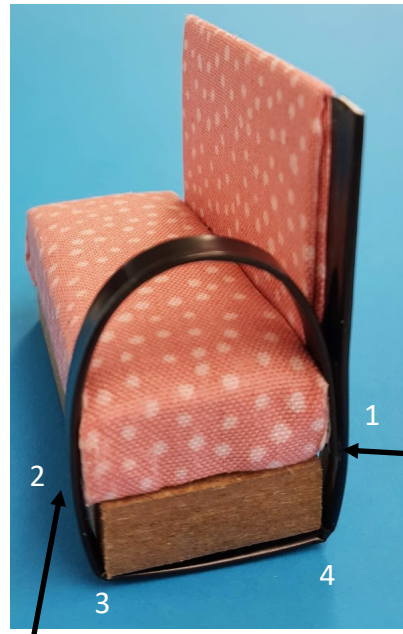


Fig.3

Back

First glue the end of the strip here, having the best side facing up.

Second glue is here

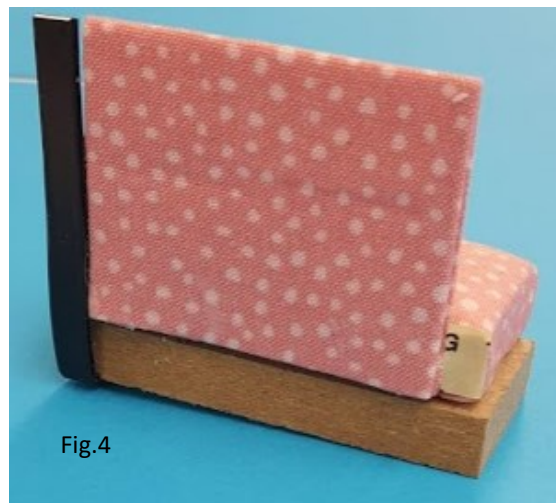


Fig.4

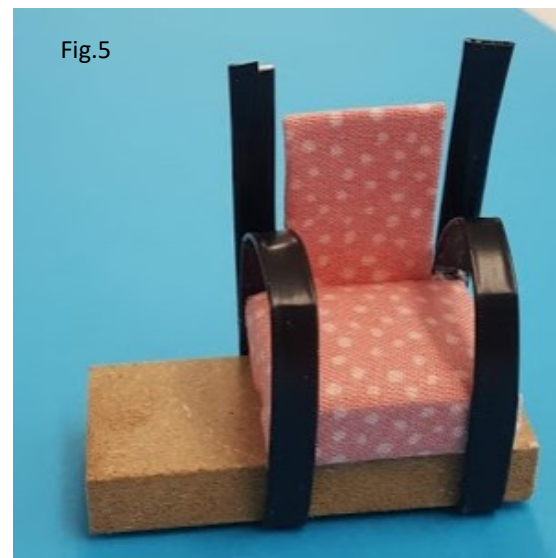


Fig.5