

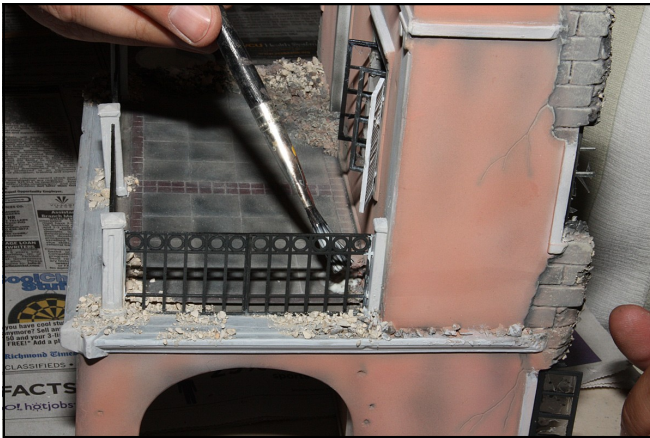
Building Basics

by Frank Blanton

Mini Art styrene buildings require assembly and frequent putty work. Brick dust and railroad ballast is used for rubble around the building. Cat litter, shale ground, and small stones work too.

The broken edges on the buildings can be improved using white glue, distilled H₂O, and matte medium. Brush this on and sprinkle with brick/stone debris.

Similar techniques add debris on the ground or on the building itself. Apply gradually to build up the layers realistically.



Don't use cigarette ashes!

Flooring is easily made with miniature Birch plywood veneer .015" thick. Balsa wood framing can be broken and splintered and even burned for effect. Plumbing and electricity lines can be added with solder or scale tubing. Stain the wood using thinned oil paint. Vary the stain color for more realism. The wood is assembled with white glue. Window glass is simulated with clear acetate film from a report cover.

PAINTING/FINISHING:

Frank used Flesh with Red to make a colorful façade reminiscent of buildings in Europe. Grey streaks are done with an airbrush, with Dark grey streaks painted by hand. The patio floor is airbrushed sand and drybrushed black. Highlights are also airbrushed. Mortar is white/sand paint brushed on then wiped away with a wet finger.

