



Back

Front. When finished, the house with roof measures 4 <sup>5</sup>/<sub>16</sub>" high.

# Pudding Box House

Text and photography by Nancy J. Rhode

The inspiration for this project came from my granddaughter Morgan. I had bought those one-serving packs of cereal for the kids' breakfast, and the night before she left she said she wanted to make a dollhouse for a Brownie badge. Nothing like a deadline! I thought one of those cereal boxes would work, and she suggested using fabrics for the outer covering and wall, as there was not time to shop for paper. She did all the cutting and gluing. We finished that night and she got her badge.

That project got me thinking about other boxes I could use, and the Jell-O pudding or gelatin boxes came to mind. They're a little smaller than cereal boxes, but either will work.

## What You'll Need:

- 3 oz. box of pudding or gelatin mix\*
- Masking tape 1" wide
- Pencil, scissors, ruler craft knife (optional)
- Craft glue
- Fine-tip permanent marker
- Small scale dollhouse wallpaper or scrapbooking paper
- Brick or siding printed paper
- Hair clips
- Paper clips or clothespins
- Thin cardboard
- Scraps of velveteen
- White acrylic paint
- Small brush
- Photo copier or printer
- Rubber bands
- Scrapbooking scissors (optional)

\*Note - Don't open the box at the end that says "Open Here." Open the other end carefully.

**1.** Find the center of the front of the box and draw a line from top to bottom. Cut along this line; then cut along the folds of the box to the sides of the front at top and bottom. (Save the top flap that gets cut off.) Fold the flaps to the inside and glue. (You may have to trim the flaps.) Use hair clips, paper clips or clothespins to hold the flaps till dry.

**2.** Roof - On the remaining long flap, make a mark  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch from the side edge. Draw a line from the fold to the mark and cut along that line. Repeat for other edge of flap. Tape each edge of back flap to the side flaps.

**3.** Floors - Cut a piece of cardboard to fit the inside bottom of the house. Using the top flap you saved as a pattern, cut five more pieces. Glue together in pairs. Weigh down all three floors separately till dry.

**4.** Walls - Starting at the bottom of box, mark walls at  $1\frac{3}{4}$ -inch intervals up both sides of the back, and front edges of sides. Draw lines connecting marks. Cut two pieces of wallpaper  $1\frac{1}{4}$  inch by  $4\frac{1}{2}$  inches. Cut one piece of wallpaper  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch by 6 inches. Glue larger pieces to walls starting at bottom, and butting edges. On the top story glue the  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch strip to lower part of wall. Paint remaining part of wall with white acrylic paint.

**5.** Cover floors with scrapbooking paper\* or fabric.

\*Options: Wood Floors: Reduce wood print paper on copier so that individual slats are  $\frac{1}{8}$  inch wide or less, or paint a sheet of cardstock with various shades of tan and brown. When dry cut into  $\frac{1}{8}$  inch strips and glue to floors.

Carpet: Glue cotton velveteen to floor.

For All Floors: Trim side and back edges of fabric or paper flush with floors. Leave enough paper/fabric to wrap over top edge and glue to underside of floor. Put weight on floors till dry. Glue finished floors at mark-



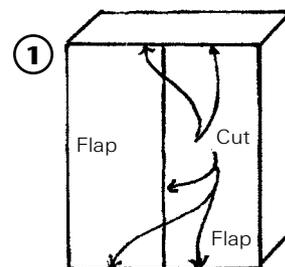
ings on walls. Use rubber bands to secure floors till dry.

**6.** Outside: Cover sides and back with brick or siding printed paper. Cover front edges with  $\frac{1}{8}$ -inch strips.

**7.** Roof: Cut  $\frac{3}{8}$ -inch wide strips of cardstock. Trim one edge of strips with scrapbooking scissors (scallop, wavy, etc.). Start at bottom edge of roof and glue on "shingles." (Trim each section on roof to fit instead of folding around the corners.) Fold the top shingles over the top edges and add a sleeve to each corner. ■

Next time we'll make furniture for the pudding box house.

Nancy lives in Florida.



Fold flaps to inside of box. Glue both flaps to inside of box.

