

The Nest

by Fran Casselman

Structure used:

- #92018 The Three Gables
- #66300 Thatch Roofing

Landscaping used:

- #1717 Large Evergreen Tree
- #965 Pair of "Squeeze Me"
Evergreen Bushes
- #9844 Light/Dark Green Foliage/
Ground Cover
- #15126 9" Moss Green Spruce Tree
- #15128 13" Moss Green Spruce Tree

Exterior Animals and Décor used:

- #22694 Painted Turtle
- #77148 American Crow
- #71617 Three Songbirds
- #22727 Scalloped Wall Planter
- #27215 Potted Mother-In-Law's Tongue
- #40430 Pair of Block Terra-Cotta
Planters
- #65581 Pair of Gunmetal French
Door Handles
- #71509 Pair of Small Decorative Hinges
- #41016 Ornate Hanging Iron Lamp
- #68216 Binoculars
- #29251 Squirrel
- #22076 Bird in Birdbath
- #78596 Russian Cottage Birdhouse
- #78599 Turret Birdhouse
- #78597 Country Birdhouse



Crafting notes:

The thatching method used here varies from the method described by the seller in the included instructions. That method probably produces a more authentic look but I do not have good hand strength and found it difficult to use. Here, I applied the material in rows, which would not appear in actual thatch. The "stitching" at the ridges is hemp twine held in place with fine wire pulled through holes drilled into the MDF roof. To get this aged color, the finished roof was painted with layers of diluted gray acrylics, and finally with #1073 Fred's Wood Weathering Stuff.

The rubble stone foundation is crafted using my own method with dimensional paint, hot glue and faux painting; details provided separately.

The porch bracket is crafted using one #7209 Square Newel Post, cut lengthwise and connected with a scrap of #17522 1/4" x 1/4" Strip Wood.

The birdhouse post is #17522 Strip Wood with brackets made from scrap shingles, all aged before assembly with #1073.

Light green "shrubs" are reindeer moss clumps from Michaels.