



Writer's Studio

by Fran Casselman

Setting:			
#2118	Charming Cottage Shell Kit	76868	Studio Chair
#2121	Charming Cottage Component Set	#76194	Open Back Shelving
#7123	Southern Pine Random Flooring by Houseworks	#5018	Large Shutters
#17513	1/8" x 1/2" strip wood	#17510	1/8" x 1/8" Strip Wood
#17522	1/4" x 1/4" strip wood		
#45112	Worn Flagstone Flooring Paper	Vestibule:	
#34978	Embossed Dark Brick Sheet	#9205	1/8" x 3/8" strip wood
#34980	Ornamental Embossed Dark Brick Accessory Sheet	#5014	Palladian Working Window
#9149	1/16" x 1/2" Strip Wood	#1123	Gold Plated Brass Window Handle Pull by Houseworks
#50610	15-Light Non-Working Window	#0725	Gray Cut Stone Veneer
#7022	Red Oak Flooring by Houseworks		
		People and pets:	
Furnishings:		#3039	Claire
#42342	Caspian Rug	#3078	Christopher
#70316	4-Pc Midnight Blue Living Room Set	#29878	Socks Cat
#76915	1/2" Scale Monticello Display Cabinet	#29644	Cardinal
#76698	Lincoln Stove	#30811	Timothy
#73090	Renaissance Cross Frame Chair		
#72874	Old Fashioned School Desk	Accessories:	
#22548	Executive Office Chair	#62009	Jade Plant Dish Garden
#76562	2-Drawer File Cabinet	#78033	2-Pc. Antique Desk Set
#5099	Two 9" x 12" Sheets of Plexiglass by Houseworks	#34887	Ginger Jar and Floral Mosaic Panel
		#31044	Pair of White Mugs
		#32300	6-Pc Hardy Boys Book Set
		#21072	Two New Yorker Magazines
		#54017	Pair of Now and Then Clocks Set
		#54016	Turned Candlesticks Trio
		#54024	Pair of Oblong Baskets
		#71122	Camera on Tripod
		#5013	Set of 12 Handcrafted Large Books
		#68216	Vintage Field Glasses/Binoculars
		#78532	Parlour Gramophone
		#4219	Five Small Corrugated Metal Sheets
		#51116	Pencil on Writing Pad
		#3158	6-Pc Envelope, Paper and File Folder Set
		#78026	Tabletop Globe
		#78506	Laptop Computer
		#71019	Reading Glasses
		#42002	Dictionary
		#42003	Thesaurus
		#78055	Cordless Phone Set
		#77022	Black "Leather Briefcase"
		#504057	Cork Bulletin Board
		#34242	Buffalo Skull
		#4152	Large Chalkboard
		#22252	Crow
		#78137	Fishing Rod with Line
		#76131	Metallic Blue Tool Box
		#14118	Antique Liquor Caddy by Reutter Porzellan
		#78540	12-Pc Paperback Book Set
		#78593	White Retro Radio
		#78575	3 Stacks of Books



- #54027 Set of Three White "Simple Shapes" Vases
- #78007 Black Old-Fashioned Table Phone
- #78015 Small Old-Fashioned Television
- #54022 Pair of "Simple Shapes" Accent Jars
- #78579 Red Typewriter
- #78008 Red Old-Fashioned Table Phone
- #24321 Black Cradle Phone
- #78562 Vintage Coffee Grinder
- #82636 Box of Glazed Donuts
- #54028 Ernie's Kitchen Espresso Machine
- #78547 Pay Phone
- #78561 Water Cooler
- #76060 Sgabello Chair
- #66928 Oil Lamp with Hurricane Shade



Crafty Extras:

- Front door is glued-together lengths of #9205 1/8" x 3/8" strip wood, trimmed to fit doorframe made from #5014 Palladian Working Window.
- Ceiling is #7123 Random Plank Southern Pine flooring, whitewashed with Kiwi Scuff Cover white shoe polish.
- All raw wood was stained with Sand (PM-70) Prismacolor permanent marker.
- Walls are covered with cream vinyl window shade material (to add texture and conceal altered window and door openings) applied with spray adhesive.
- Grout lines were debossed into the surface with a ball stylus and emphasized with gray permanent marker before acrylic satin sealer was applied (seal both sides to avoid warping).
- Fireplace is sections of #34978 and #34980 Embossed Brick and Accessory sheets applied to a foam core base with two lengths of #9149 1/16" x 1/2" Strip Wood for the mantel (stained with permanent marker).

- Slat blind on #50610 15-Light Non-Working Window is made from a scrap of #7022 Red Oak Flooring (see instructions).
- Window pediment modified to match side window from #2121 Charming Cottage Component Set; side window shortened to nine lights. Windows painted with Antique White acrylic craft paint and sealed with Delta Ceramcoat Gloss Varnish.
- #76562 Walnut 2-Drawer File Cabinet with a "glass" top is #5099 Plexiglass with edges painted silver.
- #76194 Open Back Shelving modified by adding a back (#7123 Southern Pine Random Plank Flooring stained with brown Kiwi Color Shine liquid shoe polish) and louvered panels (#5018 Large Shutters, one cut in half for lower section).
- Wastebasket crafted from #4219 Corrugated Metal Sheet.

Do-It-Yourself Wood Window Blinds

by Fran Casselman

Materials & tools:

- #7022 Red Oak Flooring
- #17522 12-Pcs. of 1/4" x 1/4" Strip Wood Set (*header rail*)
- 12-Pcs. of 1/8" x 1/4" Strip Wood Set (*bottom rail*) (*optional*)
- Note: you could also glue together two strips of the flooring, paper-to-paper, for this optional add-on*
- #16001 Light Duty Knife
- #41134 Ultimate Easy Cutter
- #60935 Finger Drills
- #10115 12" Stainless Steel Ruler
- Clear seed beads
- Monofilament (*fishing line*)
- Masking tape or frosted clear tape
- Pencil



The blinds are installed in #50610 15-Light Non-Working Window.



Houseworks #7022 Red Oak Wood Flooring is in 1/4" "boards", which are just the right width for slats of a wood window blind. Because the boards are exactly parallel and securely mounted to a stable paper base, it's easy to get perfectly aligned holes for stringing the slats together. You may already have flooring left from a previous project; this is the perfect way to use it.

It is easiest to stain or otherwise finish the flooring and header/ bottom rails first. I have had very good results with Kiwi Color Shine liquid shoe polish (in brown, for this project). It goes on easily, dries well, does not permanently distort the flooring or cause it to separate from the backing paper, and can be buffed to a soft sheen after light sanding. Whatever method you use, be sure the flooring is completely dry before proceeding.

Measure the width of the window* where the blind will go; allow a little clearance. (For a standard Houseworks window such as #5023, this is about 2³/₁₆".) Cut a piece of flooring to this width. You will need about 12 slats per inch of finished blind, so the amount of flooring needed depends on how much coverage you want. I did not notice a problem using slats where the flooring has a joint, but allow for extra slats to use in place of jointed ones if it bothers you.

Cut the bottom rail the same width; cut the header rail to a snug fit inside the top of the window.



On the paper side of the flooring, mark a line 1/2" in from each end of the strip width and the full length of the flooring piece(s). Fold the flooring between each strip and crease the paper; add a pencil mark in the creases to define the strips. Drill a tiny hole in the center of each strip's width along the 1/2" line. Drill matching holes in the header and bottom rail. Separate the strips by cutting the paper at the creases.

Cut a length of monofilament longer than you will need. Fold it in half to find the center, and tape it to the center bottom of the bottom rail (for temporary stability, or trim tape and leave in place). Feed an end of the monofilament through each of the holes, then a seed bead on each side followed by the first strip. Continue adding beads and strips until complete, then add the header.

Knot the monofilament ends together, cut off excess and mount the shade with your choice of permanent or temporary adhesive. As an alternate mounting method, drill holes up through the top of the window frame and feed the monofilament through, then knot or tape down the ends so the shade is secure but still removable.

*The window in the photos is #50610 15-Light Non-Working Window (with a modified pediment), so the measurements are different: the flooring strips are 4¹/₂" wide; the line for holes is 7/8" in from each end.