

# #52015/92015 Denise's City Cottage Kit

## Step-by-step assembly instructions

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### MDF PARTS:

- Foundation front/back (A) (2)
- Foundation sides/centers (B) (4)
- Foundation spacer/reinforcement (C) (4)
- Side walls (left & right) (2)
- Beams (front & rear) (2)
- Floor
- Rafters (3)
- Front roof supports (4)
- Rear roof supports (4)
- Wood frame for the sliding door
- Sliding door
- Front wall panels (2)
- Front porch floor
- Side window with trim (2)
- Front corner trim (2)
- Rear trim (2)
- Rafter trim & blocks (4)
- Transom trim (3)
- Transom acrylic window
- Temporary support for rear beam
- Roof (grooved panel)
- Screws (4)
- Nails (8)

### SUPPLIES NEEDED:

- Masking tape
- White glue (such as #1249 Weldbond)
- Sharp pencil
- Ruler
- Hammer
- Phillips screwdriver
- Clamps (#55663 Small/#55664 Large)
- Waterbottle or bookends for support



### GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

- Identify and inspect all parts using the Parts List.
- Thoroughly read the directions before starting.
- Set up a dedicated work area to avoid the need to unpack, repack, or move the project frequently.
- Use a clean, level, and dry work surface protected from glue spills.
- Dry fit the parts using masking tape to ensure everything aligns correctly before permanent assembly.

## Assembly Instructions

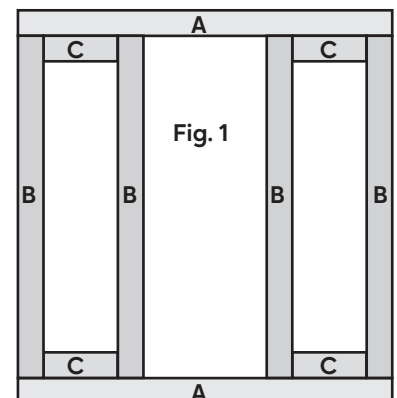
**Tip:** Plan the finishes for the interior and exterior at the dry-fit stage, before final/permanent assembly. It is easier to finish the panels as flat surfaces. Disassemble and finish as desired, then reassemble using glue.

### FOUNDATION:

Each piece has a smooth and rough side. Work the smooth side up for all pieces. Finished foundation is 19<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>"W x 20"L.

1. Arrange the longest (A) pieces at the front and back, and two side (B) pieces as shown (Fig. 1) and glue. Joints must be square. Use tape and/or clamps to hold until dry. (Tip: glue the two diagonally opposite corners first and let dry, then the final two.)

2. Glue spacer/reinforcement (C) pieces into corners, parallel to (A). Clamp or tape and let dry.
3. Glue center supports (B) to spacers and outer foundation. Clamp or tape and let dry.



## FLOOR, SIDE WALLS AND BEAMS:

**Floor:** Draw a pencil line 1/4" in from outside edge on both sides of foundation. Place the main floor panel on the foundation, flush at the back and on the pencil lines. Use masking tape at the back edge to tack it in place.

**Walls:** Fit side wall panels into place with the countersunk screw holes to the outside and the window openings to the back. Use temporary supports to keep side walls upright. *Side walls will slightly overhang the foundation.*

**Beams:** Carefully fit beams into notches in wall panels. *Warning: Beams are somewhat fragile.* The front beam has two shallow notches that face the interior to receive the door frame assembly. The rear beam is smaller and has a bevel on the top edge. The bevel supports the slope of the roof and fits flush where it meets the side walls. Use long strips of masking tape across the front and back to hold the side walls upright.

## ROOF SUPPORTS AND RAFTERS:

1. Fit rafters into the outer two notches on the Front and rear beams. Do not glue yet.
2. Install roof supports between the side walls and the outer rafters starting with the four longer supports. Rear supports are angled to fit flush to roof's curve. Position the bevels up and flush with the walls and beam to support the roof. Glue to the beam only, not walls. Clamp and let dry.
3. When the glue is completely dry, install screws through the predrilled holes on the side walls into the roof supports at each corner.
4. Fit the center rafter in place and fit the shorter reinforcement supports between the center and side rafters, bevels up at the back and straight sides at the front. Glue supports to beam only; clamp and let dry.

Up to this point, the kit can be carefully disassembled for painting, decorating and wiring. If painting or papering, don't forget the two front wall panels (MDF), which are installed vertically but otherwise are not specially shaped for inside or out. When you are ready to proceed, use glue at all joints as you reassemble.

## FRONT:

1. Fit preassembled wood frame for the sliding door unit into place from the outside by slipping the top tabs up behind the front beam and into the notches.
2. Place front wall panels from the inside. *To maintain disassembly capability, glue to the door frame only.* Walls sit directly on the foundation.
3. Install front windows flush to front wall from the inside. *The windows are thicker than the wall panels and will slightly overhang on the inside. There is no trim or joining element.* To maintain disassembly capability, glue to the front wall panel and door frame only.

**Porch:** Floor sits on top of the foundation and against the front wall assembly. *There is a slight overhang on the front and sides.*

## TRIM DETAILS:

**Side windows:** Open either out or in as you prefer. Trim pieces are provided.

**Front corner trim:** The notched end goes at the bottom and fits over the porch floor, leaving a gap at the top.

**Trim for back opening:** The angled end is at the top outside. *Note: this trim is precisely cut for the thickness of the MDF wall; it may not fit over wallpaper without damage.*

**Rafter trim:** Covers the screws on the outside. The square-cut end goes at the front. Small MDF blocks are provided to create the appearance of a full rafter at the front. Glue these to the rafter trim.

**Transom window:** Install long trim, thin edge out, to the bottom of front beam and the short trims below on sides. Acrylic installs from the inside.

**Sliding door:** Pre-assembled unit fits into door frame from exterior. No interior trim provided.

## ROOF:

*Install roof grooved-side up with the ungrooved area at the front.*

1. Locate eight predrilled nail holes near the front and back. Clear them with a pin or similar. Mark them on the top side so you can find them easily.
2. From the inside, angle the notch of the temporary brace under the center of the beam and slide it to vertical. *Temporary brace supports the rear beam while the nails are hammered in and can be removed after.*
3. Align roof along the back edge, covering the side wood trim pieces and centered so there is a slight overhang at the sides. Hold in position with tape at the rear.
4. Using the tape at the rear as hinges, lift the panel away and apply a thin line of glue to the beams, rafters and side walls. Then gently lower into place, trying not to slide it out of position. Hold roof down at the front side/wall corners with tape.

Recheck position and nail, starting with the rear and checking the curve before moving on to the front. Clamp or weight until dry.

In some Denise's City Cottage kits, the door frame has come apart in shipping.  
The illustration below shows how the parts should be assembled.

