

Building a Simple 1:35 Scale Stone Block Ruin Part 2 (Building the Walls)

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The finished walls.

In this part of the guide we will build the ruins walls.

Moulds and Materials

To build the walls we used the following moulds:

- 1:35 Scale Stone Wall Blocks Mould (1350003)
- 1:35 Scale Stone Lintels and Sills (for 12mm walls) Mould (1350025)

The materials we used are as follows:

- Hard casting plaster.
- Polyfilla Multi Purpose filler in a tube.
- Black powder pigment.
- Yellow Ochre powder pigment.
- Van Dyck Brown powder pigment.

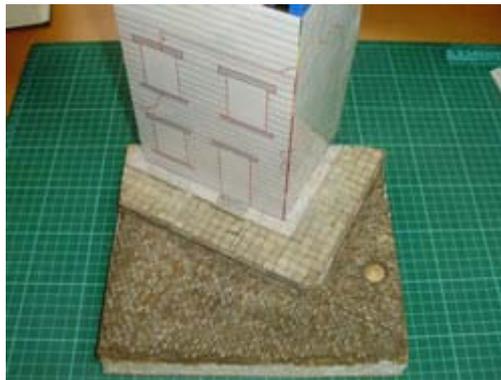
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Attaching the Assembled Plastic Building Blocks to Base

See part 1 of this guide for details about the plastic building blocks and building design.



We attached double sided tape to be base.



We then attached the plastic blocks with the building design onto the base.

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Colouring and Casting the Stone Wall Blocks

We used the same techniques to colour the plaster for the stone wall blocks as we did with the setts (cobblestones) in part 1 of this guide.

To cast the blocks we used the scraping method. It would also be a good idea to weather the blocks before assembly. Details on how to do this can be found in the Beginners Guide.

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Sticking Blocks Together

We stuck the stone blocks together using diluted Polyfilla ready mixed multipurpose filler which comes in a tube. Some of the other makes we have tried were a little bit too coarse for this purpose.

To mix it:

- Squeeze some filler into a disposable plastic cup.
- Gradually add very small amounts of water until you reach the desired thickness (the thicker the mix the wider the mortar course will be).
- To make a mortar colour we normally add Yellow Ochre and a tiny amount of black (black is a very strong pigment, even a one hundred to one ratio may be too much).
- Wet some kitchen towel and place it over the pot so your mix will not set.

Sticking the blocks together:

- With a small paint brush put a small amount of filler onto the wall base.
- Place the block down onto the filler leaving the desired mortar thickness of about 0.5mm.
- The filler will turn solid within a few seconds as its moisture is soaked up by the plaster. Even though solid it will have very little strength until it dries so take care not to move it. Depending on how thick you mixed the filler you may need to moisten the blocks.
- Use a cocktail stick to remove any solidified filler that may interfere with laying your next block.
- When you apply the filler for the next block make sure to work some between the gaps of the previous block. It is this second application of filler that will give the strength.
- After about 5 mins remove any mortar that has pushed out the sides with the cocktail stick.
- Do not let too much filler build up on the brush. Wash the brush regularly in a disposable plastic cup of water.

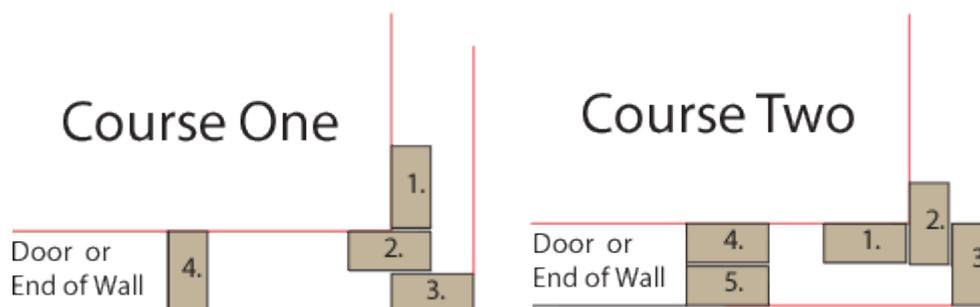
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Laying the Stone Blocks

Before we started laying the stone blocks we assembled some plastic building blocks the same width as the door opening and stuck them in place with double sided tape.



Make sure to centre them above the door step even if it is slightly out compared to the drawing of the door.



When building real stone walls they use their best largest blocks on the corners and around windows and doors.

We start each course by laying the large corner blocks and then the large block or blocks where the wall ends around a door or window (when we say end of wall we do not mean the broken ends).

The sketch above shows the order in which the large blocks for a corner and end of wall should be laid. Alternate between course one and course two as you build the wall.

Note: When you lay block one of course 1 or 2 make sure it is about 0.5mm back from the corner.

A few tips about laying blocks:

- Use the large blocks (approx 6mm height) for the wall corners and the sides of windows and doors (unless you have reached the top of the door or top or bottom of a window).
- Do not use a large block next to the large corner or end of wall blocks.
- It is ok to use large blocks in other places.
- Stager the vertical joints between courses (it is ok for two vertical joints of the thinner blocks to be inline).
- Most of the blocks should run parallel with the wall but ever so often place a block across the wall.
- Try to keep the blocks and courses level (do not lay blocks at an angle).
- If you have to, it is ok to trim a block to fit (use a pair of snips to trim them down).
- Rather than cutting a brick in half try to fit it across to the wall.



When we reach the bottom of the window we cut a window sill to length and stuck it down. We then put some plastic building blocks together the same width as the window and used double sided sticky tape to hold it in place.

Note: In the picture above we have added some filler to the top most course of blocks and let it dry for a few minutes. This was done to pack these areas up to keep the next course of blocks level.



When we reached the top of the door and window we let the wall dry for a few hours before removing the plastic building blocks. We then stuck down the door and window lintels. If you do not remove the plastic building blocks and stick down the lintel you may never get them out.



To simulate the shell damage on the corner of the wall we chipped some of the edges of the inner blocks and left out and chipped some of the outer blocks.



Once all the blocks were laid, we left the building over night to dry and then removed the plastic building blocks. We removed the filler that had pushed through to the inside and dried by dampening it down with a wet cloth until it softened and then scraped it off with a wooden cocktail stick.

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Filling the Gaps between the Blocks



To fill the gaps between the blocks we mixed up some mortar coloured filler as before and painted a layer onto the wall. Do not make the layer of filler too thin as it will be harder to remove.

Let the filler solidify and remove with a cocktail stick. Do not use anything harder than wood as it will scratch the plaster blocks. If the filler starts to get too hard to remove dampen it down with a wet cloth.



The next steps would be to add some plaster to the inside of the walls, woodwork, rubble and general detailing.

Check out the Noville School Diorama walk through which includes how to plaster walls and make wooden floors and roofs.

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