



## TBS Z-04 Little Joe's Pizza INSTRUCTIONS

Congratulations on your purchase of a **TownBuilder System** kit! We hope you enjoy assembling **Little Joe's Pizza** (a.k.a. The Happy Wok), fourth in our series of Z Scale classic American downtown structures. Before getting started, please ensure that all of the kit's components are present. The package should contain:

- 6 main structural castings including front wall, two side walls, back wall and 2 entrance parts
- 2 cinderblock chimney castings
- 2 exhaust fan castings
- 1 lighted sign casting
- 1 brick sign plug casting
- 1 sheet of sign decals
- 1 sheet of window blinds
- 1 sheet of window glazing
- 1 sheet of interior graphics
- 2 pieces of square strip styrene
- 1 sheet of laser-cut windows and doors
- 1 pre-wired LED with plastic mounting collar
- 2 laser-cut sheets of thick cardstock with roof, floor, and 5 sign lighting fixture parts



If any of these parts is missing or damaged, please see the contact information on the back.

To assemble this kit, you'll need the following tools and supplies:

- sharp modeling knife
- steel ruler
- cutting mat
- tweezers
- smooth-jaw pliers
- small metal square or square alignment block
- white or carpenter's glue, such as Elmer's
- thick, gap-filling cyanoacrylate (CA) such as Gorilla Super Glue
- various paints, brushes and washes of your choosing

**GETTING STARTED.** First, read all of the instructions; this way, you won't have any surprises. Then familiarize yourself with all of the kit's components. Carefully inspect all of the cast resin parts. Please note that large, thin castings may have a tendency to warp; this is normal. If any of the parts have warped, simply place them in boiling water for about 5-10 seconds, then remove them and place them on a smooth, hard surface, such as a countertop, until cool.

Using a sharp knife, remove all of the flash from the outside edges as well as inside all of the window and door openings. Be sure to leave the ridge along the right side and corner of the main entrance intact.

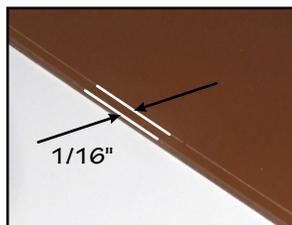


Figure 1



Figure 2

Be especially mindful of the edges of the wall parts that are molded to interlock with one another. The interlocking surfaces must be free of all flash and other imperfections. Work slowly and carefully to avoid damage to any visible surfaces.

**SIDE WALLS.** Prepare each side wall by scribing a line on the back 1/16-inch above the bottom edge (Figure 1). Cut two 1-inch pieces of square styrene strip, and bond them *above* the scribed line toward the *back* of the structure. Then cut two 1/4-inch pieces and bond them *near the front* of the structure, about 1/8-inch from the end of the wall, as shown in Figure 2.

**MAIN ASSEMBLY.** Carefully test-fit all of the corners to ensure the joints are tight. This may require making adjustments, which are best accomplished by *scraping* small amounts of material away with a knife, as opposed to *cutting*. Pay special attention to the tops of the corners where the wall caps meet. Decide if you are going to use the lighted sign; if not, install the plug.

Noting the orientation of each corner (Figure 3), position one side wall and the front wall together, using a small metal square or square alignment block to hold them at right angles; ensure the corners are snug, as shown in Figure 4. Then, apply CA along the joint from inside, and hold the parts in place until the CA sets. Repeat this procedure to bond the other side wall to the front wall, then the back wall to the two side walls. Be certain each joint is fully set before moving on.

**PAINTING.** Although you can use any type and color of paints you prefer, we recommend leaving the walls their natural brick color and simply applying a mortar effect. This can be accomplished very easily by brushing on a coat of **acrylic craft paint**; be sure to work the paint into all of the mortar lines (figure 5). Allow the paint to dry completely; then, moisten a paper towel or rag with ordinary rubbing alcohol, and wipe the excess paint off of the brick faces (Figure 6). To avoid removing too much paint, wipe only in an up and down direction, and not side-to-side. Wrap some paper towel around a toothpick to get into tight areas. Last, paint all interior surfaces black to make them light-tight.

Highlight the details with paint. Wall caps and window sills: tan or medium grey; gas and electric meters: light grey. Also paint the ventilators silver and glue them to the back wall over the squares above the gas meters.

**GHOST EFFECT.** If either or both of the side walls will be visible, then you'll want to do the "ghost building effect." This is actually quite easy: simply apply different colored craft paints to the areas delineated by the raised ridges; for example, use a dark grey color outside the lines, and tan or sand inside. When the excess paint is removed with alcohol, the cast-in details will automatically stand out. To finish the effect, apply some black acrylic paint along the roof line ridges with a small brush; see Figure 7. This will simulate roofing tar applied where the roof of the other buildings used to meet the walls. The reference images (Figures 8 and 9) should provide some ideas for coloration and weathering.

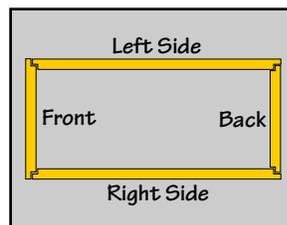


Figure 3

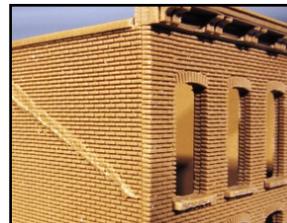


Figure 4



Figure 5



Figure 6

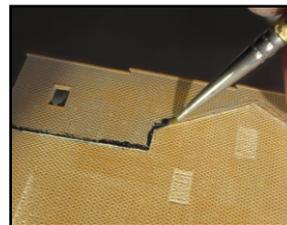


Figure 7



Figure 8



Figure 9

**WINDOWS & DOORS.** We recommend spraying them to achieve an even finish. Or, you can leave them their natural ivory color. While the windows and doors are drying, remove the glazing parts from the acetate fret, and note which glazing parts go with what windows and doors by matching their overall size. (Note that the main entrance windows and door are an exception on the size rule; these will be handled later.)

Peel the protective sheet off the back; be sure you've removed all of the fine strips of backing from the window mullions, as these have a tendency to separate from the rest of the backing. Then, apply the matching glazing part over the exposed adhesive, and press it firmly.

Cut and apply window shades as desired. Then, install the windows. Align them behind the openings and, while holding them firmly in place, dab CA onto the edges. Continue holding them in place until the CA has set. Also install the left front door; this must be done with great care, as there is very little overlap between door and wall.

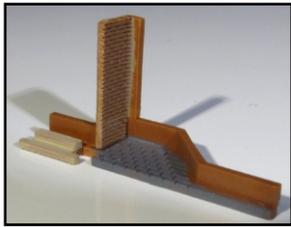


Figure 10

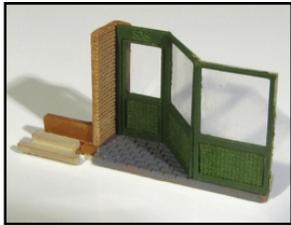


Figure 11

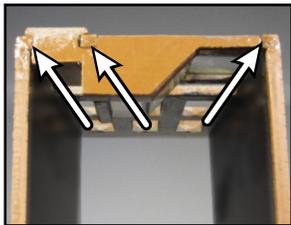


Figure 12



Figure 13

**ILLUMINATED SIGN.** If you're using the sign (illuminated or not), carefully clean up the edges of the casting so that it fits precisely within the opening in the front wall. To make the frame around the sign light-tight, first apply black paint (acrylic is recommended) with a small brush, such as #0. When this is dry, apply off-white or silver paint over the black.

Cut out the desired decal, and test-fit it on the casting before applying it; the decal should just fit within the frame. Then apply the decal. Finally, install the sign with *tiny* amounts of CA applied to the outer edges of the opening in the front wall.

**MAIN ENTRANCE.** The entrance consists of two cast parts and one laser-cut window and door part. Begin by painting the parts as desired; the brick wall should be painted to match the building face. After they're dry, bond the wall part to the entrance floor as shown in Figure 10.

The window and door set must be bent to fit the shape of the entrance. Use a smooth-jaw pliers and flat tool such as a steel ruler to make the bends. Alternatively, the entrance can be installed in three separate pieces; if this is your preference, cut the three sections apart first. Peel off the protective backing and attach the glazing parts along the top edge. Press the bottom of each section against the lip on the base. Figure 11 shows the finished entrance.

Install the entrance by carefully sliding the assembly straight up into the building until the bottom surfaces are flush; work slowly to ensure everything is aligned. Secure the entrance by applying CA to the joints indicated in Figure 12. Also apply CA to the back of the wall part where it meets the column.

Finally, after choosing the interior graphic you wish to use, cut it out of the sheet with a knife, fold it as shown in Figure 13, and glue it in place using the end tabs.

**FLOOR.** If you do not want to illuminate the sign (regardless of whether or not you want to illuminate the building itself), the floor is next. Test-fit the floor in the building and trim as necessary for a good fit. If you are illuminating the building, install the plastic LED holder in the floor, attach the brown fiber washer on the other side, and insert the LED into the holder.

Install the floor by applying glue to the styrene strips along the edges of the side walls. You can skip down to the section about the roof.

**LIGHTING FIXTURE.** Begin by removing all of the parts from the fret; parts are identified in Figure 13.

Test-fit the floor; trim away material as needed for a good fit.

Insert the LED holder into part 1, and attach the brown fiber washer on the other side. Next, glue parts 2 and 3 to part 1 on the same side the LED holder was inserted. Then glue the two small spacers (parts 4 and 5) into the slots along the side of parts 2 and 3. Finally, glue this sub-assembly to the floor part such that it faces away from the hole in the center; also be sure to orient the floor correctly. The completed fixture is shown in Figure 14.

For even illumination, sand the dome of the LED with sandpaper. When the fixture is thoroughly dry, insert the LED into the holder, and thread the wires through the hole in the floor. Then install the floor by applying glue to the styrene strips along the side walls, and carefully sliding the assembly up through the gap in the strips; slide it toward the front until it is snug against the back of the front wall.

**ROOF.** The very last step is to install the roof; it rests on the tops of the window assemblies at the front and back. Test-fit the roof in the building and trim the edges as needed for a good fit. Glue the stiffening brace on edge to the underside of the roof down the center, then paint the roof as desired. After installing the roof, apply a small, irregular bead of thick black paint along the edges to simulate sealing tar. Finally, paint the cinder-block chimneys and glue them to the roof; apply some more "tar" where they're attached, if desired.

This completes the assembly of Little Joe's Pizza. We sincerely hope you've enjoyed building it. Who are "we"? **TownBuilder System** ([townbuildersystem.com](http://townbuildersystem.com)) is a collaborative project brought to you by **Stonebridge Models** and **NZT Products, LLC**. Together we work to ensure this kit is of the highest possible quality and value. If you have questions or suggestions to improve our products, please do not hesitate to get in touch with us. We value your feedback!

**In the event that you require replacement parts, please contact Stonebridge Models.**

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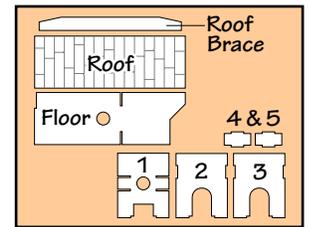


Figure 13

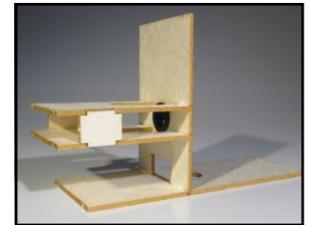


Figure 14