



The Stoddard

History:

Throughout the later half of the 19th century and well into the 20th century many architectural firms offered stock house plans that could be purchased for use in constructing homes throughout the country. Often these plans were published in elaborately illustrated catalogs for prospective homeowners to browse and dream of their next purchase.

The Stoddard house is based on a plan shown in the 1925 catalog of Harris, McHenry and Baker of Elmira, NY. Unlike many of their competitors who offered complete house kits to be delivered to the construction site, of Harris, McHenry and Baker offered house plans only. The Stoddard was one of their intermediate designs.

Tools:

A few basic tools are required to assemble this kit. A sharp X-Acto knife, tweezers and glue (Elmer's white glue or similar for wood to wood joints and ACC, contact cement or epoxy for metal parts) should be all that is required. A small square may also be useful.

Painting:

We find it easier to paint the building shell and the trim pieces before assembly. If you are using water-based paints be sure to paint both sides of the wall sections to prevent warping. Windows and trim items can be painted while still in place on the sheet. Any edges that are visible can then be touched up after assembly.