

Take & Make

Signs of Spring!

Materials Provided:

- 50 Regular Craft Sticks
- 3 Large Craft Sticks
- Assorted Flowers
- Letter Stickers
- Twine
- Paint
- Paint Brush

Additional Materials Needed:

- Pencil
- Scissors
- Super Glue and/or Hot Glue Gun



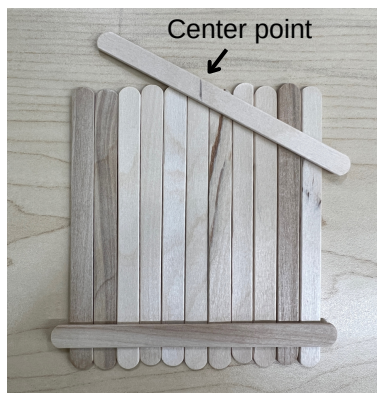
Directions

Each house will need a total of 14 regular-sized craft sticks. I've provided you with extras in case some are very warped or they split badly when cutting them.

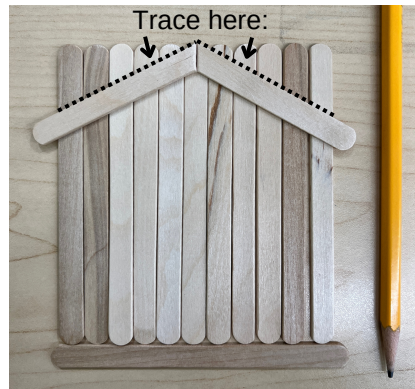
- 11 sticks for the house
- 1 stick for the base
- 2 sticks for the roof

TIP: Every time we have to cut the craft stick it will be on an angle. You want to cut in an upward direction to avoid splitting the stick.

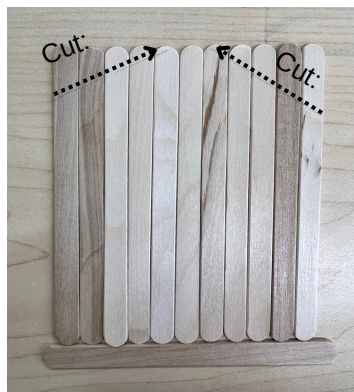
- Begin by laying 11 sticks out side-by-side and another across the bottom.
- Take one of the sticks for the roof and lay it in place. You want it to slightly hang off the outer edge. Take a pencil and mark it where it meets the center of the 11 sticks. This is where you will cut the stick to form the peak of the roof.
- Once you have the first piece of the roof cut, line it up against the second roof stick. Again, mark with a pencil and then cut.



- After both pieces of the roof are cut, place them onto the house:



- Trace along the top of the roof pieces with a pencil. And then cut.

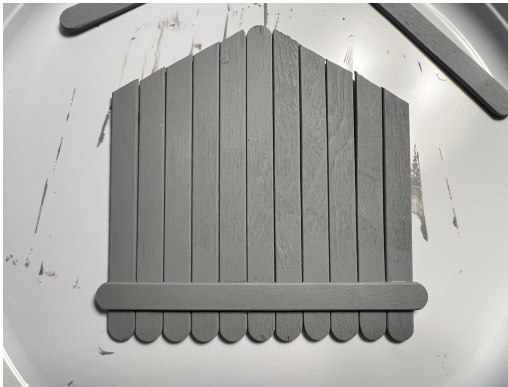


- Once all the pieces are cut, it's time to paint! I would suggest painting both sides of the sticks. This is not something I did, but in hindsight it would give the final product a more polished look!
 - You have been provided gray paint, but if you would prefer to use a different color, by all means, change it up!



- Allow the sticks to fully dry, and then it's time to assemble the house!

- For this next part, you can either use a hot glue gun or super glue. After trying both methods, I would personally suggest using super glue, but honestly, either will work.
- First, glue the base piece across the bottom. This will help hold the sticks in place better when gluing the roof.
- Next glue the roof in place.
 - The best way I found to do this is to lay both pieces of the roof onto the house. Then pick one of the sticks up, apply the glue, and secure it back in place using the position of the other stick as a guide.



- After gluing everything in place, if you think the house needs a little extra support, you can take one of the large craft sticks, trim it and glue it across the back.



- Once the first house is fully assembled, you will need to repeat the previous steps to make 2 more houses!
 - You can of course make all 3 houses simultaneously, but I just found it easier to make one at a time.

- When you have all 3 houses fully assembled, it's time to connect them with the twine. For this step, I found that a hot glue gun work the best. The twine did not stay in place when I tried using super glue.
- Flip your houses over and line them up. I left a finger's width of space between each house.
- Starting with the bottom house, apply a line of glue onto one of the sticks (I used the third one in) and secure the twine.
- Repeat this for the middle house, then the top house. Leave extra string at the top so that you can hang your sign and begin gluing again, this time from top to bottom.



- Lastly, you can decorate the front of each house! You've been provided with letter stickers and an assortment of flowers to use. However, if you want to branch out and use other materials that you have lying around, go for it! This is your chance to make the craft your own!