
Serie MEDIEVAL
40901 CASTELLUM 1. English

Thank you for choosing one of our products. We hope that you enjoy the building process. Read the instructions and follow the directions. For any query or problem which may come up, you can contact DOMUS KITS[®], S.L. Read the instructions and follow the directions. For any query or problem which may come up, you can contact DOMUS KITS[®], S.L..

In the centre of the Iberian Peninsula there are many vestiges of medieval castles which form part of the landscape of the area and serve as an authentic reminder of a past era. These monuments are usually located on the outskirts of small modern towns. Most of them are located on gentle hilltops which overlook the vast plain of the plateau. Architecturally these castles have a simple quadrangular ground plan, defended by powerful viewpoints and cylindrical structures of considerable height. The accesses and openings are relatively limited. All of the elements used in the building are meant for military defence or for war: towers, turrets, ramparts, battlements, moats, etc. The origin of many of these constructions can be found in the era of the *Reconquista* of the peninsula from Muslim domination, whereas the full consolidation of these castles, architecturally and artistically, took place during the 14th and the 15th centuries. Later, many of the structures were reformed and expanded in response to new needs. At present, in spite of the arrogant appearance of several of these, as well as the successive restorations, many castles are in ruins.

The model 40901 CASTELLUM 1 reproduces the type of construction which is similar to the 15th century castle of Mombeltrán (Ávila) in 1:145 scale.

Cut the figures of the cardboard patterns along their perimeter. Fold the figures on the dotted lines using a cutter and a ruler to mark the edges.

Glue the flanges marked on the patterns in the reserved area of the wooden base. Then, join them to one another until you have formed the cardboard structure. Sometimes the flanges are narrow for the wide surface to be supported. Therefore, the glue supplied (white wood glue) can be replaced by stronger glues. We recommend that you plan for this by also having available additional instruments such as rubber bands, clips, clothespins, weights, etc. in order to secure the structure while the glue dries. For the doors which are visible on both sides of the wall, we recommend that you glue a small piece of cardboard measured specifically for this purpose on the inner passage in order to join both cardboard walls.

The cylindrical towers do not have flanges on the base nor on the roof since this would make it more difficult to fold this section in a circle. Therefore, fold the towers by holding them on the edges and pressing them firmly against the edge of the table in order to soften their straightness and adapt them gradually to the curved shape, ensuring regularly that there are no edges or uneven areas. They can also be folded by rolling them around a spray container or inserting them in a cardboard tube with a similar diameter. Glue the highest flange on the tower to the other end and secure it with clothespins until the glue dries. Finally, fold the circular roof towards the inside as though it were a lid. To adjust it to the perimeter of the ground plan as well as the circle of the roof, it must be assembled very carefully, applying the glue exactly on the ends of the tower. We recommend that you adjust the line where the tower is assembled to one of the walls which will be attached in order to reinforce the joint, prevent deformations and conceal the cut.

After the towers and the middle walls have been glued, the three inner sections of the castle will be attached to the length of the appropriate ramparts, following the instructions on the wooden base.

Use the glue to join the ceramic parts between the outer line and the perimeter of the façades and the cardboard structure. The lines of the doors and windows, as well as the lined areas, should be respected. Given the probable scale of this model, there are no figures of windows drawn on the cardboard patterns. These can be made by using a sharpened cutter to trace these in the most appropriate location and the most suitable size on the wall which has already been set into place. For the outline of the doors with a round arch, select the suitable parts (of similar size) so that they will have a conical shape (with sandpaper or a cutter) and set them into place as the keystones of the arch. Except for these minor exceptions, generally the ceramic parts should be added spontaneously to build the walls, with no prior selection by size (either large or small can be used, only ensuring that the lines are the same height). In the corners between the towers and the ramparts, the stones should intersect and form a single line. (Do not build the towers with a shape that is different from the rest of the rampart.) Repeat the same process on the outer façades of the castle, following the same steps. The parts can be adjusted to one another with sandpaper of any texture so that they occupy the required space or position. As in the case of the cylindrical towers, since the arrangement of these parts follows the circular outline, the sides which are joined can be adjusted so that they fit together more exactly. After the cylindrical tower has been covered with stones and is completely dry, you can go over the area with a cutter from the highest to the lowest point to adjust the edges of the parts which project out the most. Those who would like to give it a more complete finish may even smooth the cylinder of the tower with fine sandpaper.

The end of the final line should coincide with the plan of the roof of the towers or the sentry walks of the ramparts. On this line (only on the outer façades), forming an angle between the wall and this plane, glue the parts at intervals of approximately 5 or 6 mm to form a decorative buttress which is continuous along the towers and ramparts. Over this series of buttresses, add another line of stone as a railing. For this purpose, glue the small supports which form the buttresses and the parts of the railing to one another. Crown this railing with battlements in the following manner: select some of the smaller parts and glue them continuously at 5 or 6 mm. intervals. On the cylindrical towers, place the circular parts between the buttresses and the roof of the tower (half surface on each support). Over these, insert another line of stone as a railing, and then the battlements. Once again, since the arrangement of these parts follows the circular outline, the sides which are joined can be adjusted so that they fit together more exactly.

Glue the flat parts on the rampart walks as a coating for the pavement. Do the same on the three sloping roofs calculating previously the number of lines and how much they must overlap with one another (the minimum possible). The parts which are located in crucial positions (next to the edges or angles of the perimeter) can be adjusted with sandpaper of any texture. Use your fingers (after making a mark with a cutter) or cut with scissors, depending on the condition of the material.

Glue the flat roofs of the round towers with a brush and sprinkle the brown "flock" which is provided, pressing gently with your fingers to ensure that it is well secured.

During the entire process we recommend that you follow the sequence of photos provided as an example.

Finally, cover the wooden board with white glue and sprinkle the brown "flock" on it until it is attached. Decorate the floor of the castle with moss. This decorative part of the assembly is important since it gives the model a finished appearance. We encourage you to decorate according to your individual preferences.

DOMUS KITS[®], S.L. hopes to have provided an enjoyable pastime with the assembly of this model.



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