
Serie MEDIEVAL
40904 CASTELLUM 4 Vallparadís. 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..

The model 40904 CASTELLUM 4 reproduces C. XII Vallparadís castle, in Terrassa (Barcelona) in 1:125 scale.

The Castle of Vallparadís is presently located inside the city centre of Terrassa. Therefore, one can hardly imagine the original surroundings and topography. Nevertheless, the prevailing torrent indicates that there were orchards and water mills. The earliest documents, from the 11th century, refer to a purchase-sale agreement which implied the construction of a fortification. Later, the castle was linked to the lineage of the Terrassa family. It overlooked several different farms in the area, some of which have served as the origin for the names of the present neighbourhoods in the city. Following the purchase by the monks of the Carthusian order, important reform work was performed. It was later passed on to the Carmelite order of Barcelona, and in the 15th century it was purchased by the Sentmenat family, which owned the castle up until the 19th century. The Mauris owned the castle up until 1947, when it was taken over by the Terrassa Town Council. At present it is the site of a municipal museum.

The building underwent different changes, the most noteworthy of which were performed in the 14th century (foundation of the Carthusian monastery) and the controversial restoration of the face of the walls and the roofs which took place in the fifties. Recently, archaeological excavations have been performed in the northern moat to attempt to determine the original structure of the building. It seems to have been a simple square ground plan which included clearly defensive elements, with towers attached and a well designed moat, except for the natural slope of the torrent. Inside the structure, there are two floors. On the first floor, the most noteworthy areas are the large hall (Sala de Tinellet) with pointed arches, which housed the Carthusian church; the charterhouse; and several other rooms which have been meticulously restored and were used for purposes which have not been determined. Therefore, it is doubtful whether the perimeter of the present foundations are the same as the original foundations in the 12th century.

Romanesque Catalonia. Vol. 18 Enciclopèdia Catalana

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. Do not glue the cardboard parts for the cloister of the castle until directions are given.

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. 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. In the area reserved for the floor which has the densest lined area, glue the parts which have a width of 7.5 mm but do not have a cardboard pattern on the inner side. When these reach the height of the lined area of the wall of the castle, insert the platform between this wall and the 7.5 mm wall, gluing its flanges to the sides and making sure that the floor is completely level. Recover this area with flat parts which serve as pavement and continue with the construction of the 7.5 mm wall up until the height shown in the photograph.

As in this section, install the flat roofs for the entire building in the appropriate areas. Then, construct (one row of parts) a slight wall which projects out above the flat roofs as a small railing.

Glue the darkest flat parts on the flat roofs as a covering for the pavement. The parts which occupy crucial positions (next to the edges or angles along the perimeter) can be adjusted with sandpaper of different texture, using your fingers (after making a mark with a cutter) or cutting with scissors, depending on the condition of the material. The final appearance of these flat roofs will depend on the arrangement of the parts: it should have an uneven shape (the ends of the individual parts should not meet), forming a drawing with four angles. It is a decorative work.

The construction of the cloister of the castle should be done outside of the castle itself and installed after it is completed. We even recommend that you begin gluing the parts on the cardboard without constructing their structure in order to have a greater margin for manoeuvring, taking into account the inner angles of the courtyard. Use the semi-cylindrical parts for the columns which separate the arches of the cloister. Trim the inner cardboard on the windows for greater realism. After the four walls of the cloister have been folded and all of them have been covered with the ramparts and the finished windows, insert the floor of the cloister and cover it with flat reddish parts. Set the fully completed cloister into place by gluing its flanges in the areas reserved for this purpose on the wooden base.

Arrange the four parts of the ceramic roofs between the inner walls of the castle and the walls of the cloister. Each part will occupy its appropriate place although they can be finally retouched with sandpaper for a more precise fit. Glue them as required.

During this entire process we recommend that you follow the sequence of photographs 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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