Tools Materials

OF DAREKPAGES WORLD

PAPER

Most often, 200g/m2 paper is used to make models, with a thickness of about 0.25mm (the exact thickness depends on the manufacturer and production technology). It is used because of its stiffness.

This is a weight that is acceptable for most popular inkjet and laser printers. The print quality depends on the type of paper and is often always acceptable. On this poor quality paper, the color is very "faded". The printer ink will soak in strongly, while the laser printer powder will not adhere well. Often one side of the paper is smoother.

Paper is used in a single layer to glue individual blocks together. Flat parts are often glued together from two layers of paper to achieve stiffness. To achieve exceptional stiffness, it may be necessary to glue even three layers of paper together.

CUTTING

For cutting and all other activities, a self-healing cutting mat is used. It not only protects the table from damage but also makes cutting easier and protects the blade of the modeling knife from becoming blunt. The larger the mat, the more convenient it is for practicing this hobby.

To cut parts from a printed sheet, modeling knives and scalpels are used, but a 9mm segment knife from a DIY store will be equally effective. When choosing a knife, you need to consider the handle that stiffens the blade well.

All parts are cut out using a metal ruler, but it is also easy to cut by hand, without a ruler. A steel carpenter's ruler is very useful, it is quite flexible, slightly bent, so it is easy to move it over the part to be cut. Scissors are usually used for rough cutting.

BEND EMBOSSING

Almost every block has elements that need to be bent. The best way to do the bend is with a pen that has been written on (one that doesn't get dirty), or with the reverse blunt side of a modeling knife blade. But you have to do it so carefully that you don't damage or scratch the printed surface of the paper, or cut it. Another way is to make a light (shallow) cut in the paper at the fold. However, this method has a disadvantage, because it can result in a visible white cut inside the paper, which will be very visible, for example, on a dark print.

PAINTING THE EDGES

Models with all white edges painted black look attractive, comic-book-like. This "painting", retouching is done before gluing (after gluing it is very difficult or impossible). It is also worth painting over those parts that are not printed and may be visible after gluing. Retouching is easily done with a water brush marker.

More advanced retouching involves painting over the edges with colored markers, the color of which is chosen to be the same or as similar as possible to the print.

GLUING

For gluing the blocks, PVA (White Glue) glue is used for wood with the consistency and color of thick white cream, which can appear under different names and different quality, used in many creative works. For example, carpenter's glue. The best PVA glue will be marked with the symbol D2, which dries quite quickly and connects the glued paper parts like contact glue. Its advantage is that after drying it is almost invisible, even if it flows out from under the pressed part.

For gluing large flat surfaces, it is best to use a glue stick (GlueStick), which comes under many names, it hardly causes the paper to wave. To obtain a flat, non-waved surface, after gluing, you need to apply good, strong pressure, e.g. with a rubber roller, first on one side, then on the other side of the glued part. Then leave to dry, leaning the part against something, so that it dries evenly on both sides. After a dozen or so minutes during drying, if the part bends slightly, you need to re-form it, straighten it and leave to dry completely, in the same position as before. The part dried in this way should be flat. The glue stick, as it is very thick, dries quite quickly.

Each freshly glued element must be shaped before it dries, because once the glue dries, straightening the dislocated element will be very difficult or impossible.

ATTENTION

Modeling knives and scissors can cause severe cuts, and glue can destroy clothes and furniture. Small parts can be swallowed by children and animals. Paper is flammable. Be especially careful when practicing this hobby.