A BASIC GUIDE TO FOAMBOARD MODELLING

SETTING OUT THE ELEVATIONS

Firstly plot out the different elements of your design that will make up the 3 dimensional model. This can be drawn on computer and printed out or by hand onto paper which is then photo mounted onto the foam board. Alternatively the design can be drawn directly onto the foam board. Drawing the design on computer easily allows extra detail to be added such as brick patterns.

PHOTO MOUNTING

If your elevations are on paper it is best to photo mount them onto the foam board. Spray a light even coating onto the back of the design, let the glue become tacky then apply the paper to the foamboard working from one end smoothing out any trapped air. For a very strong adhesion of the paper to the board use the spray mount as a contact adhesive by spraying both the paper and the board allowing the glue to become touch dry before sticking together.

CUTTING OUT THE ELEVATIONS

Place the foam board onto a cutting mat then cut out the elevations by holding the steel rule firmly on the foam board and holding the scalpel fairly upright.

Make a cut through the top layer of card then repeat several times until you have cut all the way through the board. You are much less likely to cut yourself by making gentle cuts rather than trying to cut all the way through in one go. Remember to try and keep the scalpel as vertical as possible so your cut leaves a right angle between the top surface and the cut edge. Repeat until all the elevations are cut out.

GLUING THE ELEVATIONS TOGETHER

To glue the elevations together use the UHU glue as a contact adhesive.

Run the glue down one surface touch it onto the other surface then quickly pull apart.

Allow the glue to become touch dry then firmly place the elevations back together. This will form a strong joint. Repeat this process until you have completed your design.

TIP FOR A STRONGER AND NEATER JOINT

When you cut out the elevations on one side of the joint cut away the thickness of the board but only cut through the top board and the foam leaving the bottom board uncut.

Then glue together as before. This will give a greater gluing area and a concealed joint. If you are using this method an allowance needs to be made on the elevations.