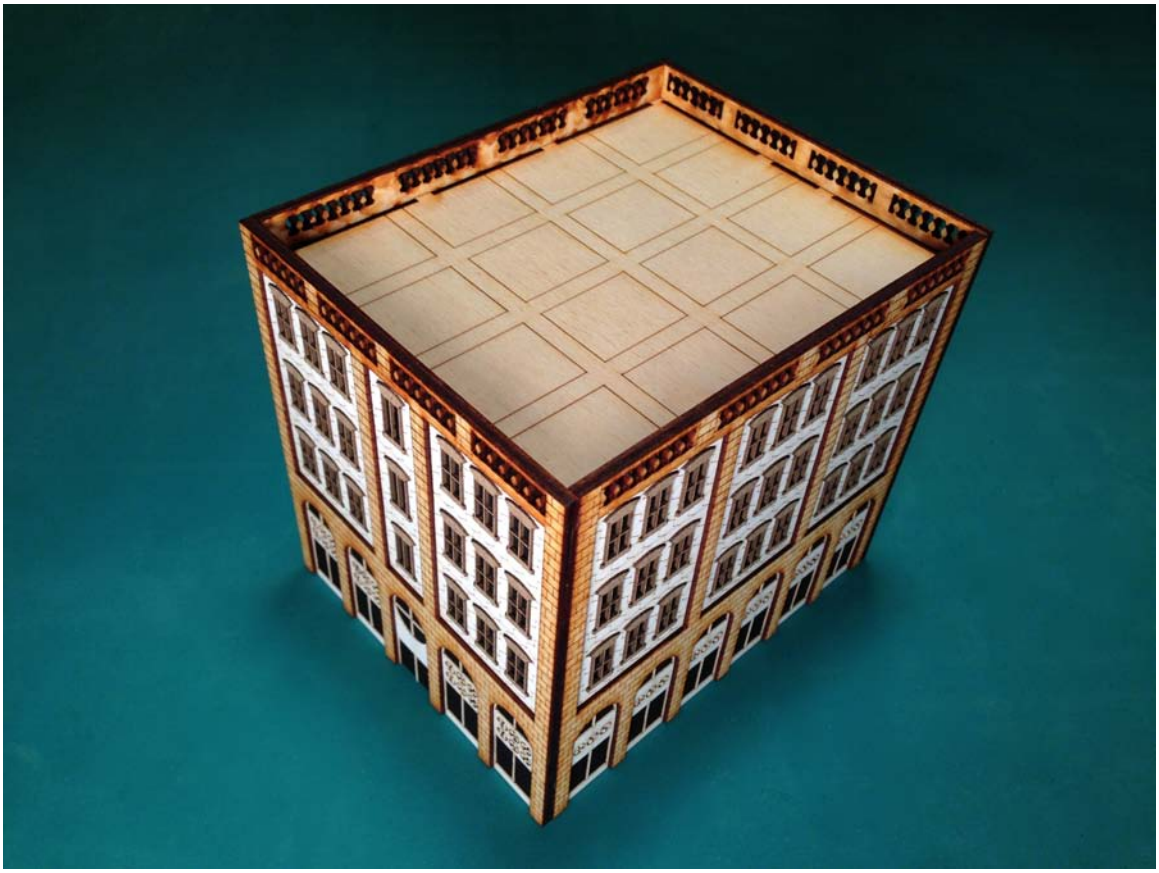
MicroClad Metropolis

MicroClad Tens

DATA BANK



These instructions will guide you through the assembly of your MicroClad Tens Data Bank. The general procedure is to assemble the wooden structure first and then add the cladding over top. The wooden structure should be pre-painted **BEFORE** any of the cladding is applied. Pre-painting can be easily done before assembly, as shown in the following diagrams. In this example the "window" pieces were pre-painted black, while the rest of the model was left in the natural wood, but those sections may be painted as well if you choose. Assembly is straightforward and by no means difficult.

In order to complete the model as shown you will need glue and paint. Occasionally the window cutouts on some cladding pieces will still be slightly attached to the cladding. Most should pop out easily, but a sharp hobby knife might be necessary to remove stubborn pieces. Use caution when handling the cladding. Some pieces have scored details that make them easy to fold accidentally. A few general tips to help with assembly are given below.

A quality wood glue is recommend for assembling the wooden structure. Be very careful when joining pieces. Globs of excess glue will prevent the cladding from laying flat. Be sure to clean up any globs before proceeding!

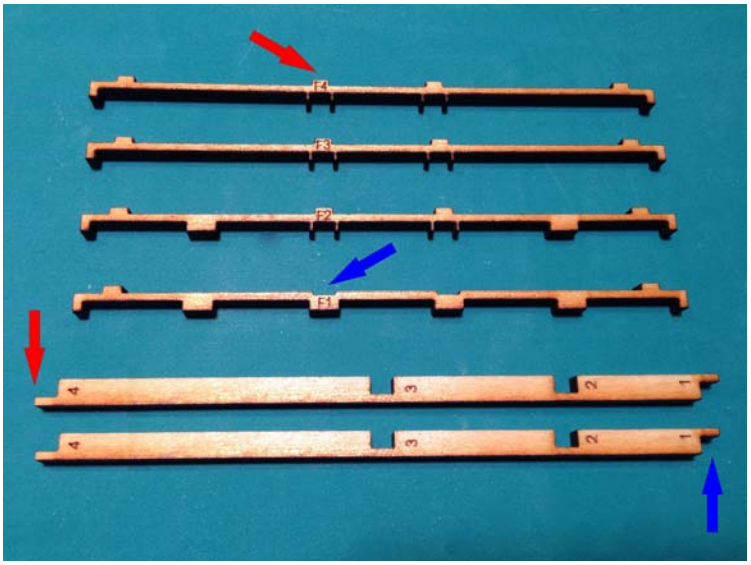
Acrylic art paint, available at any craft store, was used to finish this model. It comes in a wide variety of colors and is available in gloss finishes, which gives a great effect for the windows of your model.

You may find that some colors do not cover completely in one coat. At least two coats are recommended, and you may wish to sand the pieces with 400 grit or finer sandpaper between coats to achieve a nice smooth finish.

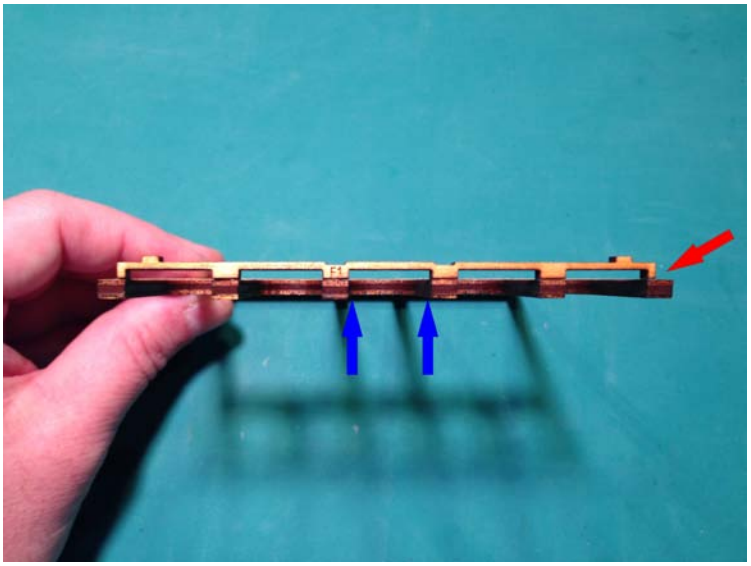
Super glue is recommended for applying the cladding. It is thin and quick drying, but use it sparingly. Excess glue might squeeze out when the cladding is pressed flush and will dry as a shiny spot on your model.

Assembly

Assemble each wall of your model separately, using the diagrams below. When complete, the 4 walls are joined together and topped with a roof to make the completed structure. In order to achieve an additional level of detail, the walls have various pieces, usually where windows are present, that are recessed from the surface of the model. A latice work of ribs attached to the back-side of each wall provides attachment points for the recessed parts and controls their depth. Be aware when going though the steps below when parts are being attached to the front-side or back-side of walls. The final step after the wooden structure is assembled is to apply the cladding over top.

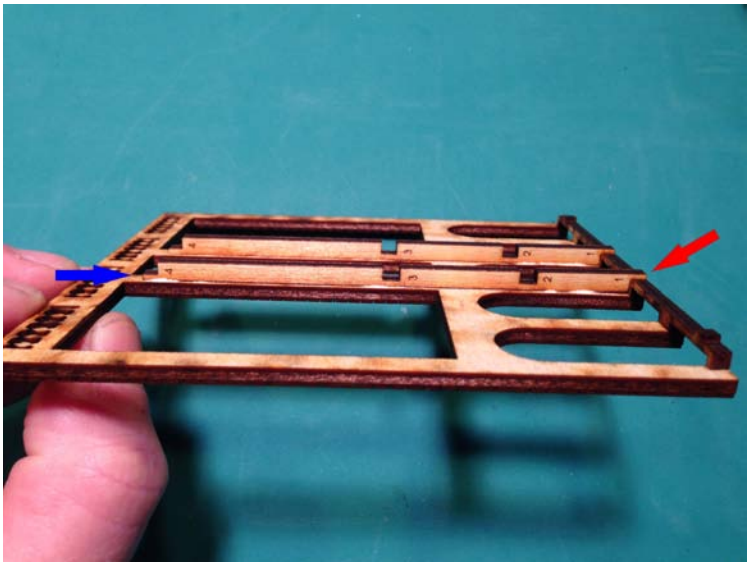


Find the labels on the horizontal ribs and sort them according to the wall they attach to. Ribs for the front wall are labeled F1, F2, etc, the back wall B1, B2, etc, left wall L1, L2, etc, and right wall R1, R2, etc. The vertical spacers on this model are the same on all four walls and are just labeled with numbers. The numbers, and their position, indicate where the rib with the matching number is attached. Some ribs attach below the spacer (blue arrows), while some attach above the spacer (red arrows).



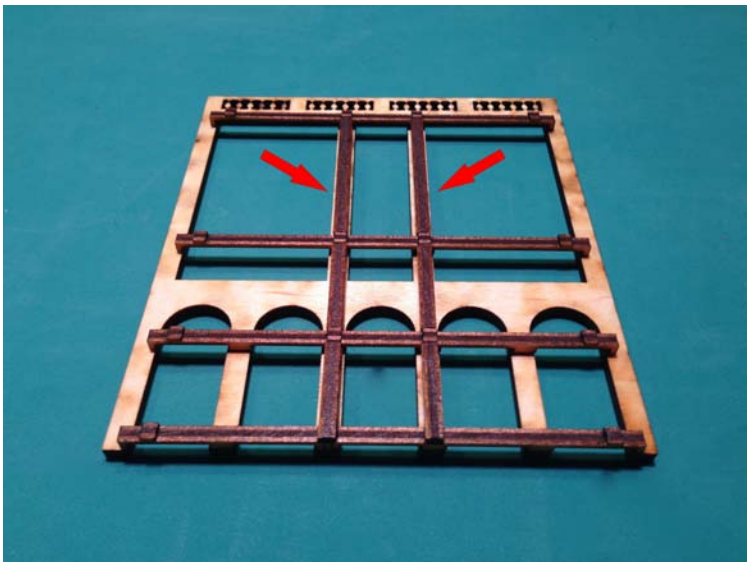
The front wall is illustrated in the diagrams, but the steps are the same for all four walls (using the appropriate ribs for each). The frames for the front wall and back wall are the same on this model, as are those for the two side walls.

First glue rib F1 as shown to the bottom of the back-side (non-engraved side) of the front wall frame. Be sure the numbered surface of the rib is flush with the bottom of the frame (red arrow) and that the tabs on the rib and the frame line up (blue arrows).



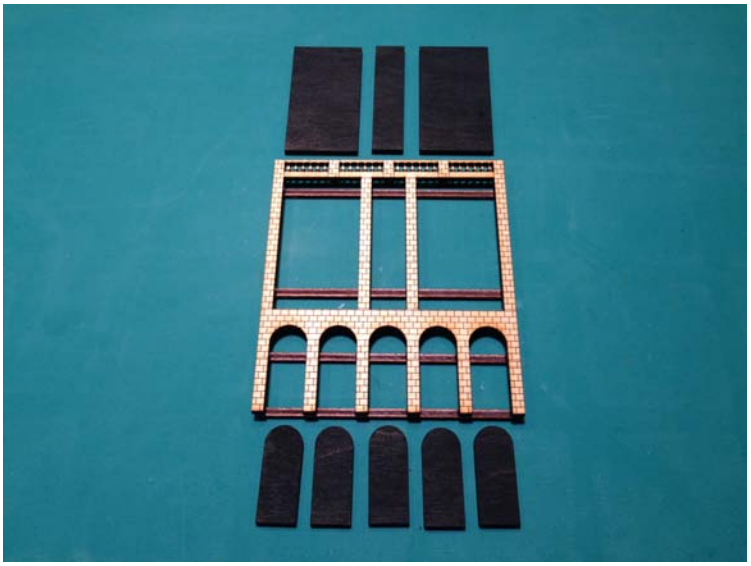
Glue the two spacers to the back-side of the frame. The #1 notch on the spacer rests on top of the grooves in rib F1 (red arrow). Center the spacer down the middle of the spine on the frame (blue arrow). See the arrows in the next image for another view.

Notice the position of the number 2, 3, and 4 notches in the spacers. The F2, F3, and F4 ribs will attach at those locations.



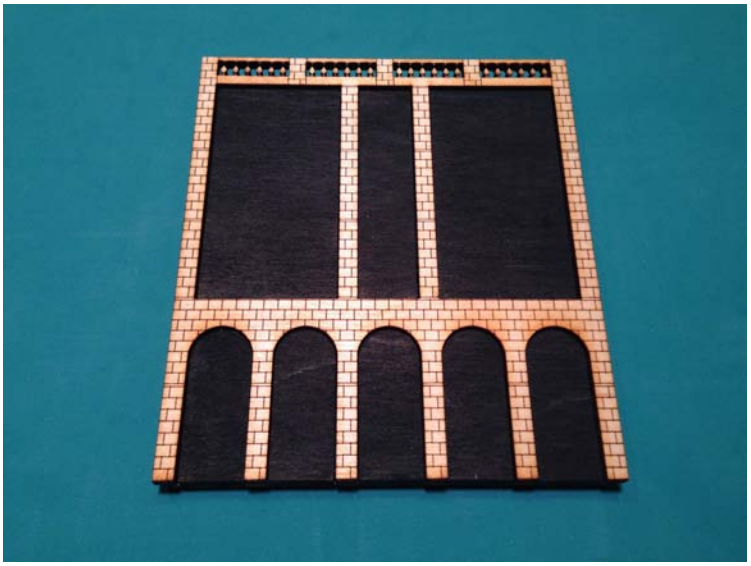
Glue the F2, F3, and F4 ribs to the back-side of the frame using the notches in the spacers to position them. As with rib F1 previously, the numbered side of these ribs face to the bottom.

Notice how the spacers from the previous step are centered along the length of the frame (red arrows).

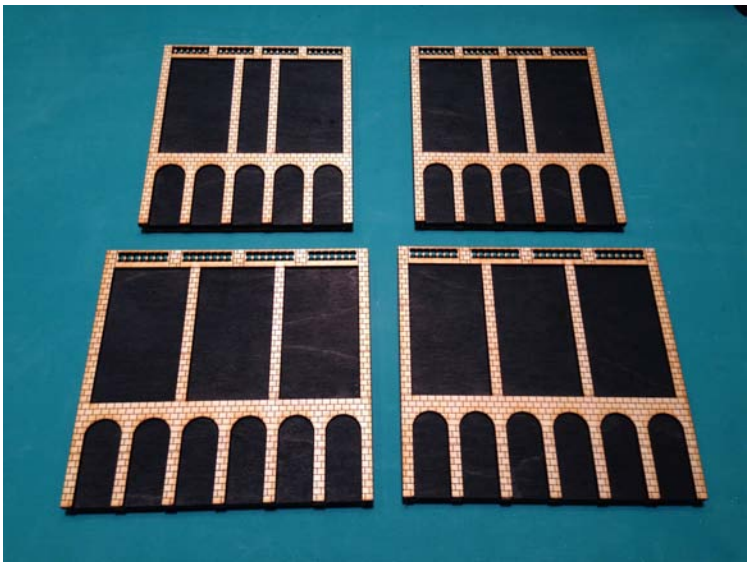


Looking from the front-side (engraved side) of the frame, the "window" inserts are laid out in their relative positions. The inserts are not specific to any wall, and any piece of the correct shape can be used anywhere.

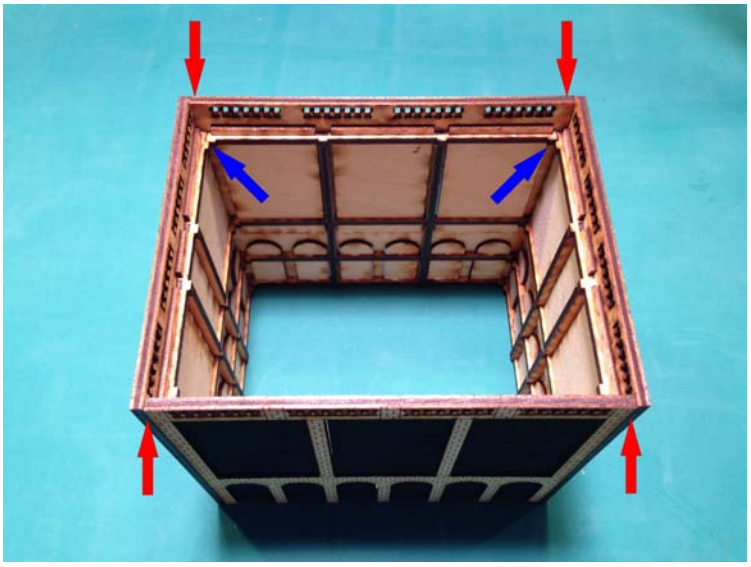
Note the inserts have been painted black before assembly. They are much easier to paint before they are glued in place. Notice also how the ribs from the back-side of the frame extend across the "window" openings. The inserts will be glued to the ribs there.



Lay the inserts into the openings and glue to the ribs behind. Be sure the inserts are pressed all the way down. If you were careful when attaching the ribs to the back-side the inserts should slide in easily.

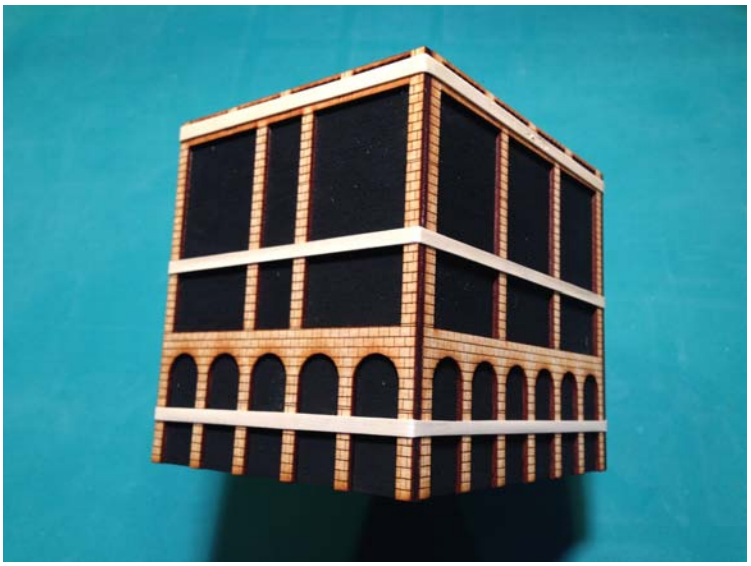


The four completed walls, using the above steps on each. The skinnier front and back walls are on top and the wider side walls below.

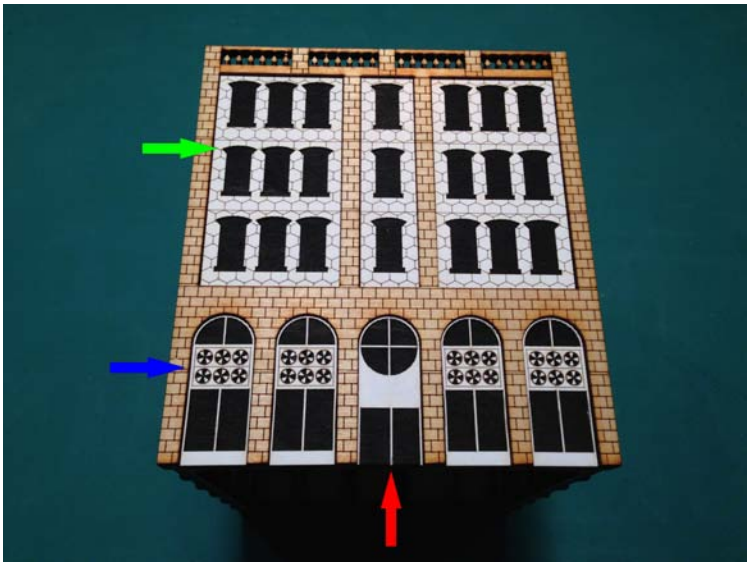


Glue the four walls together as shown. Notice that the side walls are inside of the front and back walls (red arrows). Notice also that the ribs meet at the corners (blue arrows). The top ribs create a ledge that the roof sits upon.

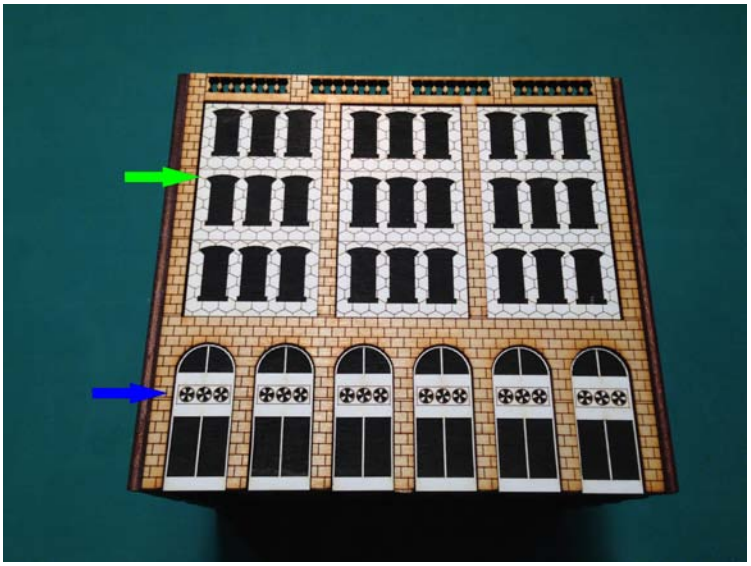
Slide the roof down inside the walls and glue it to the top row of ribs. Notice the roof has tabs around its edge that fit between the tops of the "window" inserts. Be sure the roof is down all the way against the ribs on all four walls. This will help square up the walls of the model.



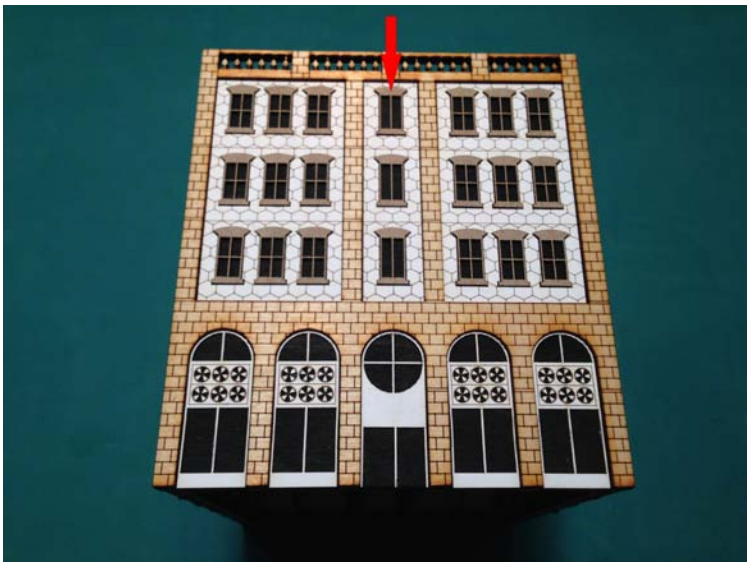
Rubber band the model to insure a consistent joint between the walls and set it aside to dry. Be sure to clean up any glue oozing out the seams.



After the model has dried, apply the white paper cladding to the front and back walls. The cladding is the same on both EXCEPT for the doorway piece on the front wall (red arrow). The back wall has the rounded window cladding with the fans in all locations. Note the rounded window cladding for the front and back walls have two rows of fans (blue arrow). Also be sure the upper cladding is applied right side up. The arched end of the window cutouts face up, while the square "window sill" end faces down (green arrow).



Apply the white paper cladding to the sides of the model. The cladding for both sides is the same. Note the rounded window cladding for the side walls have only a single row of fans (blue arrow). As before, also note the correct orientation of the window cutouts on the upper cladding (green arrow).



The final step is to glue the brown matte board window frames in the cutouts in the upper cladding. All the window frames on the model are the same EXCEPT for three pieces each on the center of the front and back walls (red arrow). These six window frames have only a single bar down the middle, while all other window frames have crossed bars in the middle.

Congratulations! Your MicroClad Tens Data Bank is done!