HINTS AND TIPS ON THE USE OF BRICKSLIPS

Brickslips are thin slices of Brick that you stick onto a wooden dolls house or model. This makes your dolls house look like it is made from solid brick, but they are much lighter than a full Brick. The Brickslips are easy to use and can be stuck down with our PVA Glue. We recommend our PVA Adhesive as it is tried & tested, some customers have had inferior results with other brands.

To start, draw horizontal lines 2cms apart as guidelines to help keep your rows straight. Apply PVA to the wood of the dolls house or to the backs of slips, leaving approx. 1mm gaps as you lay them (remember to stagger each row of Brickslips as with full size brickwork, so your joints on your next row come halfway along the Brickslip below).

To cut your slips you can simply use our Modelling Tool or score with a craft knife and press down firmly. Any rough edges can be removed with sandpaper. If reproducing old brickwork do not be too fussy with the slips that you use, slips with corners broken or rough faces can add to the realism of the finished work. Take a look at full size brickwork around you, you will find that it is far from perfect! However, for those of you who want a neat, precise finish, we do include plenty of spares in our packs so you can discard any damaged slips. Don't be afraid to mix colours, Polychrome brickwork can look most effective (but don't over do it). We have a video that you can watch on how to lay Brickslips.

Cornerslips are thin "L" shaped Brickslips that can be used on the Corners of your dolls house or model to make it look like it's built of Solid Brick. These are also perfect for use on Chimney Stacks and Fireplaces etc. Stick your Corners on first and then fill in with the Brickslips after.
You would also add any Specials such as Quoin Stones, Arches, Keystones, Cills & Lintels before you start bricking.

SEALING YOUR BRICKSLIPS

Once stuck on seal your Brickslips with a mixture of 50/50 PVA and water before grouting.
Apply using a clean dry paint brush making sure all of the slips are well covered; they will turn white but don't worry this will disappear once they have dried.

GROUTING

Using our Mortar/Grout Mix, as per instructions on pack, mix 100g of Mortar/Grout mix, mix with 2 level Tbsp (30mls) Water & 1/2 teaspoon of PVA. Full instructions are on the inside of the label. Using a clean dry paintbrush smooth mix over your Brickslips filling all joints as you go, work on a small area at a time no bigger than 5" x 5. Immediately using cold water, wipe off the excess grout from the slips with a damp sponge, rinsing your sponge regularly until all surplus grout has been removed. Clean until NO residue is coming off on your Sponge, then clean one more time! Do not leave to dry until you are certain that you have removed all surplus grout from the slips. Leave to dry overnight. We have a grouting video that you can watch to see how this is done.
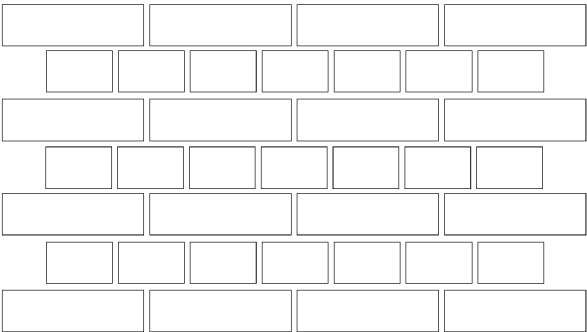
Please Note. While other grouts can give satisfactory results, some do not. We therefore recommend the use of our Mortar/Grout Mix to assure a reliable, realistic finish.

When the grout has dried, if a slight residue of grout remains and you wish to restore the full colour of the brick our Colour Restorer is available, but you shouldn't need this if you have cleaned the grout off correctly.

By following these few simple rules you will get a beautiful Real Brick finish on your model!
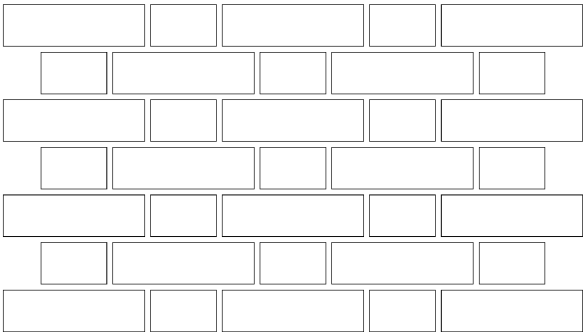
If you need any help or can't find the product you require, we are always ready to assist in any way we can. Visit our website at **www.miniaturebricks.com** or contact us via telephone or email**.**
miniaturebricks@gmail.com 01243681240

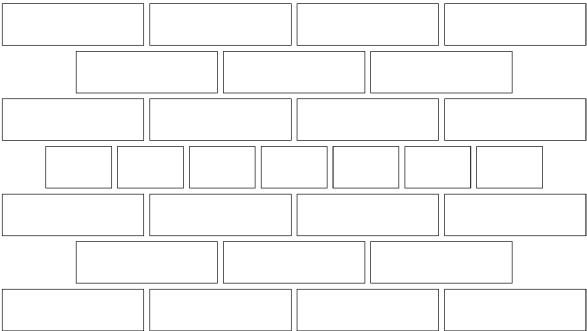# COMMON BONDS FOR BRICKS & BRICKSLIPS

OLD ENGLISH BOND
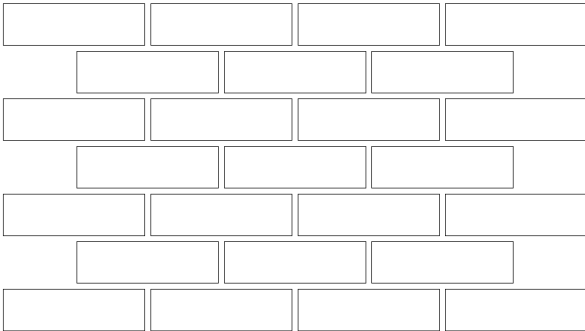Alternate one course stretchers, one course headers.

FLEMISH BOND
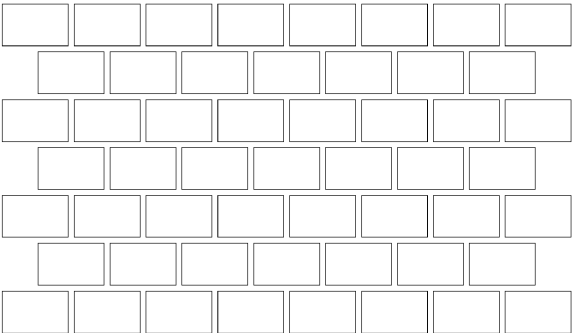Alternate one stretcher, one header.

ENGLISH GARDEN WALL BOND
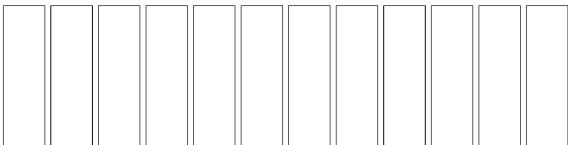Three courses stretchers, one course headers.

STRETCHER OR COMMON BOND
All courses stretchers.

HEADER BOND
All courses headers.

SOLDIER COURSE

BRICK ON EDGE COURSE

BED

HEADER FACE

STRETCHER FACE